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(54) Title: NUCLEIC ACID SEQUENCES TO PROTEINS INVOLVED IN TOCOPHEROL SYNTHESIS

NUCLEIC ACID SEQUENCES TO PROTEINS INVOLVED IN TOCOPHEROL SYNTHESIS

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INTRODUCTION

This application claims the benefit of the filing date of US. Application Serial Number 09/549,848, filed April 14, 2000.

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TECHNICAL FIELD

The present invention is directed to nucleic acid and amino acid sequences and constructs, and methods related thereto.

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BACKGROUND

Isoprenoids are ubiquitous compounds found in all living organisms. Plants synthesize a diverse array of greater than 22,000 isoprenoids (Connolly and Hill (1992) Dictionary of Terpenoids, Chapman and Hall, New York, NY). In plants, isoprenoids play essential roles in particular cell functions such as production of sterols, contributing to eukaryotic membrane architecture, acyclic polyprenoids found in the side chain of ubiquinone and plastoquinone, growth regulators like abscisic acid, gibberellins, brassinosteroids or the photosynthetic pigments chlorophylls and carotenoids. Although the physiological role of other plant isoprenoids is less evident, like that of the vast array of secondary metabolites, some are known to play key roles mediating the adaptative responses to different environmental challenges. In spite of the remarkable diversity of structure and function, all isoprenoids originate from a single metabolic precursor, isopentenyl diphosphate (IPP) (Wright, (1961) Annu. Rev. Biochem. 20:525-548; and Spurgeon and Porter, (1981) in Biosynthesis of Isoprenoid Compounds., Porter and Spurgeon eds (John Wiley, New York) Vol. 1, pp1-46).

A number of unique and interconnected biochemical pathways derived from the isoprenoid pathway leading to secondary metabolites, including tocopherols, exist in chloroplasts

of higher plants. Tocopherols not only perform vital functions in plants, but are also important from mamn-alian nutritional perspectives. In plastids, tocopherols account for up to 40% of the total quinone pool.

Tocopherols and tocotricnols (unsaturated tocopherol derivatives) are well known antioxidants, and play an important role in protecting cells from free radical damage, and in the prevention of many diseases, including cardiac disease, cancer, cataracts, retinopathy, Alzheimer's disease, and neurodegeneration, and have been shown to have beneficial effects on symptoms of arthritis, and in anti-aging. Vitamin E is used in chicken feed for improving the shelf life, appearance, flavor, and oxidative stability of meat, and to transfer tocols from feed to eggs. Vitamin E has been shown to be essential for normal reproduction, improves overall performance, and enhances immunocompetence in livestock animals. Vitamin E supplement in animal feed also imparts oxidative stability to milk products.

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The demand for natural tocopherols as supplements has been steadily growing at a rate of 10-20% for the past three years. At present, the demand exceeds the supply for natural tocopherols, which are known to be more biopotent than racemic mixtures of synthetically produced tocopherols. Naturally occurring tocopherols are all d-stereomers, whereas synthetic α -tocopherol is a mixture of eight d, l- α -tocopherol isomers, only one of which (12.5%) is identical to the natural d- α -tocopherol. Natural d- α -tocopherol has the highest vitamin E activity (1.49 IU/mg) when compared to other natural tocopherols or tocotrienols. The synthetic α -tocopherol has a vitamin E activity of 1.1 IU/mg. In 1995, the worldwide market for raw refined tocopherols was \$1020 million; synthetic materials comprised 85-88% of the market, the remaining 12-15% being natural materials. The best sources of natural tocopherols and tocotrienols are vegetable oils and grain products. Currently, most of the natural Vitamin E is produced from γ -tocopherol derived from soy oil processing, which is subsequently converted to α -tocopherol by chemical modification (α -tocopherol exhibits the greatest biological activity).

Methods of enhancing the levels of tocopherols and tocotrienols in plants, especially levels of the more desirable compounds that can be used directly, without chemical modification, would be useful to the art as such molecules exhibit better functionality and biovailability.

In addition, methods for the increased production of other isoprenoid derived compounds in a host plant cell is desirable. Furthermore, methods for the production of particular isoprenoid compounds in a host plant cell is also needed.

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SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention is directed to sequences to proteins involved in tocopherol synthesis. The polynucleotides and polypeptides of the present invention include those derived from prokaryotic and eukaryotic sources.

Thus, one aspect of the present invention relates to prenyltransferase, and in particular to isolated polynucleotide sequences encoding prenyltransferase proteins and polypeptides related thereto. In particular, isolated nucleic acid sequences encoding prenyltransferase proteins from bacterial and plant sources are provided.

: In another aspect, the present invention provides isolated polynucleotide sequences encoding tocopherol cyclase, and polypeptides related thereto. In particular, isolated nucleic acid sequences encoding tocopherol cyclase proteins from bacterial and plant sources are provided.

Another aspect of the present invention relates to oligonucleotides which include partial or complete prenyltransferase or tocopherol cyclase encoding sequences.

It is also an aspect of the present invention to provide recombinant DNA constructs which can be used for transcription or transcription and translation (expression) of prenyltransferase or tocopherol cyclase. In particular, constructs are provided which are capable of transcription or transcription and translation in host cells.

In another aspect of the present invention, methods are provided for production of prenyltransferase or tocopherol cyclase in a host cell or progeny thereof. In particular, host cells are transformed or transfected with a DNA construct which can be used for transcription or transcription and translation of prenyltransferase or tocopherol cyclase. The recombinant cells which contain prenyltransferase or tocopherol cyclase are also part of the present invention.

In a further aspect, the present invention relates to methods of using polynucleotide and polypeptide sequences to modify the tocopherol content of host cells, particularly in host plant

cells. Plant cells having such a modified tocopherol content are also contemplated herein.

Methods and cells in which both prenyltransferase and tocopherol cyclase are expressed in a host cell are also part of the present invention.

The modified plants, seeds and oils obtained by the expression of the prenyltransferase or tocopherol cyclase are also considered part of the invention.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Figure 1 provides an amino acid sequence alignment between ATPT2, ATPT3, ATPT4, ATPT8, and ATPT12 are performed using ClustalW.

Figure 2 provides a schematic picture of the expression construct pCGN10800.

Figure 3 provides a schematic picture of the expression construct pCGN10801.

Figure 4 provides a schematic picture of the expression construct pCGN10803.

Figure 5 provides a schematic picture of the construct pCGN10806.

15 Figure 6 provides a schematic picture of the construct pCGN10807.

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Figure 7 provides a schematic picture of the construct pCGN10808.

Figure 8 provides a schematic picture of the expression construct pCGN10809.

Figure 9 provides a schematic picture of the expression construct pCGN10810.

Figure 10 provides a schematic picture of the expression construct pCGN10811.

Figure 11 provides a schematic picture of the expression construct pCGN10812.

Figure 12 provides a schematic picture of the expression construct pCGN10813.

Figure 13 provides a schematic picture of the expression construct pCGN10814.

Figure 14 provides a schematic picture of the expression construct pCGN10815.

Figure 15 provides a schematic picture of the expression construct pCGN10816.

Figure 16 provides a schematic picture of the expression construct pCGN10817.

Figure 17 provides a schematic picture of the expression construct pCGN10819.

Figure 18 provides a schematic picture of the expression construct pCGN10824.

Figure 19 provides a schematic picture of the expression construct pCGN10825.

Figure 20 provides a schematic picture of the expression construct pCGN10826.

Figure 21 provides an amino acid sequence alignment using ClustalW between the Synechocystis prenyltransferase sequences.

Figure 22 provides an amino acid sequence of the ATPT2, ATPT3, ATPT4, ATPT8, and ATPT12 protein sequences from *Arabidopsis* and the slr1736, slr0926, sll1899, slr0056, and the slr1518 amino acid sequences from *Synechocystis*.

Figure 23 provides the results of the enzymatic assay from preparations of wild type Synechocystis strain 6803, and Synechocystis slr1736 knockout.

Figure 24 provides bar graphs of HPLC data obtained from seed extracts of transgenic *Arabidopsis* containing pCGN10822, which provides of the expression of the ATPT2 sequence, in the sense orientation, from the napin promoter. Provided are graphs for alpha, gamma, and delta tocopherols, as well as total tocopherol for 22 transformed lines, as well as a nontransformed (wildtype) control.

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Figure 25 provides a bar graph of HPLC analysis of seed extracts from *Arabidopsis* plants transformed with pCGN10803 (35S-ATPT2, in the antisense orientation), pCGN10822 (line 1625, napin ATPT2 in the sense orientation), pCGN10809 (line 1627, 35S-ATPT3 in the sense orientation), a nontransformed (wt) control, and an empty vector transformed control.

Figure 26 shows total tocopherol levels measured in T# Arabidopsis seed of line.

Figure 27 shows total tocopherol levels measured in T# Arabidopsis seed of line.

Figure 28 shows total tocopherol levels measured in developing canola seed of line 10822-1.

Figure 29: shows results of phytyl prenyltransferase activity assay using Synechocystis wild type and slr1737 knockout mutant membrane preparations.

Figure 30 is the chromatograph from an HPLC analysis of Synechocystis extracts.

Figure 31 is a sequence alignment of the *Arabidopsis* homologue with the sequence of the public database.

Figure 32 shows the results of hydropathic analysis of slr1737

Figure 33 shows the results of hydropathic analysis of the *Arabidopsis* homologue of slr1737.

Figure 34 shows the catalytic mechanism of various cyclase enzymes

Figure 35 is a sequence alignment of slr1737, slr1737 Arabidopsis homologue and the Arabidopsis chalcone isomerase.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

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The present invention provides, inter alia, compositions and methods for altering (for example, increasing and decreasing) the tocopherol levels and/or modulating their ratios in host cells. In particular, the present invention provides polynucleotides, polypeptides, and methods of use thereof for the modulation of tocopherol content in host plant cells.

The biosynthesis of α-tocopherol in higher plants involves condensation of homogentisic acid and phytylpyrophosphate to form 2-methyl-6 phytylbenzoquinol that can, by cyclization and subsequent methylations (Fiedler et al., 1982, *Planta*, 155: 511-515, Soll et al., 1980, *Arch*. *Biochem. Biophys.* 204: 544-550, Marshall et al., 1985 *Phytochem.*, 24: 1705-1711, all of which are herein incorporated by reference in their entirety), form various tocopherols.

The Arabidopsis pds2 mutant identified and characterized by Norris et al. (1995), is deficient in tocopherol and plastiquinone-9 accumulation. Further genetic and biochemical analysis suggested that the protein encoded by PDS2 may be responsible for the prenylation of homogentisic acid. The PDS2 locus identified by Norris et al. (1995) has been hypothesized to possibly encode the tocopherol phytyl-prenyltransferase, as the pds2 mutant fails to accumulate tocopherols.

Norris et al. (1995) determined that in Arabidopsis pds2 lies at the top of chromosome 3, approximately 7 centimorgans above long hypocotyl2, based on the genetic map. ATPT2 is located on chromosome 2 between 36 and 41 centimorgans, lying on BAC F19F24, indicating that ATPT2 does not correspond to PDS2. Thus, it is an aspect of the present invention to provide novel polynucleotides and polypeptides involved in the prenylation of homogentisic acid. This reaction may be a rate limiting step in tocopherol biosynthesis, and this gene has yet to be isolated.

U.S. Patent No. 5,432,069 describes the partial purification and characterization of tocopherol cyclase from *Chlorella protothecoides*, *Dunaliella salina* and wheat. The cyclase

described as being glycine rich, water soluble and with a predicted MW of 48-50kDa. However, only limited peptide fragment sequences were available.

In one aspect, the present invention provides polynucleotide and polypeptide sequences involved in the prenylation of straight chain and aromatic compounds. Straight chain prenyltransferases as used herein comprises sequences which encode proteins involved in the prenylation of straight chain compounds, including, but not limited to, geranyl geranyl pyrophosphate and farnesyl pyrophosphate. Aromatic prenyltransferases, as used herein, comprises sequences which encode proteins involved in the prenylation of aromatic compounds, including, but not limited to, menaquinone, ubiquinone, chlorophyll, and homogentisic acid. The prenyltransferase of the present invention preferably prenylates homogentisic acid.

In another aspect, the invention provides polynucleotide and polypeptide sequences to tocopherol cyclization enzymes. <u>The 2,3-dimethyl-5-phytylplastoquinol cyclase (tocopherol cyclase)</u> is responsible for the cyclization of 2,3-dimethyl-5-phytylplastoquinol to tocopherol.

15 - Isolated Polynucleotides, Proteins, and Polypeptides

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A first aspect of the present invention relates to isolated prenyltransferase polynucleotides. Another aspect of the present invention relates to isolated tocopherol cyclase polynucleotides. The polynucleotide sequences of the present invention include isolated polynucleotides that encode the polypeptides of the invention having a deduced amino acid sequence selected from the group of sequences set forth in the Sequence Listing and to other polynucleotide sequences closely related to such sequences and variants thereof.

The invention provides a polynucleotide sequence identical over its entire length to each coding sequence as set forth in the Sequence Listing. The invention also provides the coding sequence for the mature polypeptide or a fragment thereof, as well as the coding sequence for the mature polypeptide or a fragment thereof in a reading frame with other coding sequences, such as those encoding a leader or secretory sequence, a pre-, pro-, or prepro- protein sequence. The polynucleotide can also include non-coding sequences, including for example, but not limited to, non-coding 5' and 3' sequences, such as the transcribed, untranslated sequences, termination signals, ribosome binding sites, sequences that stabilize mRNA, introns, polyadenylation signals,

and additional coding sequence that encodes additional amino acids. For example, a marker sequence can be included to facilitate the purification of the fused polypeptide. Polynucleotides of the present invention also include polynucleotides comprising a structural gene and the naturally associated sequences that control gene expression.

The invention also includes polynucleotides of the formula:

$$X-(R_1)_n-(R_2)-(R_3)_n-Y$$

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wherein, at the 5' end, X is hydrogen, and at the 3' end, Y is hydrogen or a metal, R₁ and R₃ are any nucleic acid residue, n is an integer between 1 and 3000, preferably between 1 and 1000 and R₂ is a nucleic acid sequence of the invention, particularly a nucleic acid sequence selected from the group set forth in the Sequence Listing and preferably those of SEQ ID NOs: 1, 3, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13-16, 18, 23, 29, 36, and 38. In the formula, R₂ is oriented so that its 5' end residue is at the left, bound to R₁, and its 3' end residue is at the right, bound to R₃. Any stretch of nucleic acid residues denoted by either R group, where R is greater than 1, may be either a heteropolymer or a homopolymer, preferably a heteropolymer.

The invention also relates to variants of the polynucleotides described herein that encode for variants of the polypeptides of the invention. Variants that are fragments of the polynucleotides of the invention can be used to synthesize full-length polynucleotides of the invention. Preferred embodiments are polynucleotides encoding polypeptide variants wherein 5 to 10, 1 to 5, 1 to 3, 2, 1 or no amino acid residues of a polypeptide sequence of the invention are substituted, added or deleted, in any combination. Particularly preferred are substitutions, additions, and deletions that are silent such that they do not alter the properties or activities of the polynucleotide or polypeptide.

Further preferred embodiments of the invention that are at least 50%, 60%, or 70% identical over their entire length to a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide of the invention, and polynucleotides that are complementary to such polynucleotides. More preferable are polynucleotides that comprise a region that is at least 80% identical over its entire length to a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide of the invention and polynucleotides that are complementary thereto. In this regard, polynucleotides at least 90% identical over their entire length are particularly preferred, those at least 95% identical are especially preferred. Further,

those with at least 97% identity are highly preferred and those with at least 98% and 99% identity are particularly highly preferred, with those at least 99% being the most highly preferred.

Preferred embodiments are polynucleotides that encode polypeptides that retain substantially the same biological function or activity as the mature polypeptides encoded by the polynucleotides set forth in the Sequence Listing.

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The invention further relates to polynucleotides that hybridize to the above-described sequences. In particular, the invention relates to polynucleotides that hybridize under stringent conditions to the above-described polynucleotides. As used herein, the terms "stringent conditions" and "stringent hybridization conditions" mean that hybridization will generally occur if there is at least 95% and preferably at least 97% identity between the sequences. An example of stringent hybridization conditions is overnight incubation at 42°C in a solution comprising 50% formamide, 5x SSC (150 mM NaCl, 15 mM trisodium citrate), 50 mM sodium phosphate (pH 7.6), 5x Denhardt's solution, 10% dextran sulfate, and 20 micrograms/milliliter denatured, sheared salmon sperm DNA, followed by washing the hybridization support in 0.1x SSC at approximately 65°C. Other hybridization and wash conditions are well known and are exemplified in Sambrook, et al., Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual, Second Edition, cold Spring Harbor, NY (1989), particularly Chapter 11.

The invention also provides a polynucleotide consisting essentially of a polynucleotide sequence obtainable by screening an appropriate library containing the complete gene for a polynucleotide sequence set for in the Sequence Listing under stringent hybridization conditions with a probe having the sequence of said polynucleotide sequence or a fragment thereof; and isolating said polynucleotide sequence. Fragments useful for obtaining such a polynucleotide include, for example, probes and primers as described herein.

As discussed herein regarding polynucleotide assays of the invention, for example, polynucleotides of the invention can be used as a hybridization probe for RNA, cDNA, or genomic DNA to isolate full length cDNAs or genomic clones encoding a polypeptide and to isolate cDNA or genomic clones of other genes that have a high sequence similarity to a polynucleotide set forth in the Sequence Listing. Such probes will generally comprise at least 15 bases. Preferably such probes will have at least 30 bases and can have at least 50 bases.

Particularly preferred probes will have between 30 bases and 50 bases, inclusive.

The coding region of each gene that comprises or is comprised by a polynucleotide sequence set forth in the Sequence Listing may be isolated by screening using a DNA sequence provided in the Sequence Listing to synthesize an oligonucleotide probe. A labeled oligonucleotide having a sequence complementary to that of a gene of the invention is then used to screen a library of cDNA, genomic DNA or mRNA to identify members of the library which hybridize to the probe. For example, synthetic oligonucleotides are prepared which correspond to the prenyltransferase or tocopherol cyclase EST sequences. The oligonucleotides are used as primers in polymerase chain reaction (PCR) techniques to obtain 5' and 3' terminal sequence of prenyltransferase or tocopherol cyclase genes. Alternatively, where oligonucleotides of low degeneracy can be prepared from particular prenyltransferase or tocopherol cyclase peptides, such probes may be used directly to screen gene libraries for prenyltransferase or tocopherol cyclase gene sequences. In particular, screening of cDNA libraries in phage vectors is useful in such methods due to lower levels of background hybridization.

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Typically, a prenyltransferase or tocopherol cyclase sequence obtainable from the use of 15 - nucleic acid probes will show 60-70% sequence identity between the target prenyltransferase or tocopherol cyclase sequence and the encoding sequence used as a probe. However, lengthy sequences with as little as 50-60% sequence identity may also be obtained. The nucleic acid probes may be a lengthy fragment of the nucleic acid sequence, or may also be a shorter, oligonucleotide probe. When longer nucleic acid fragments are employed as probes (greater than about 100 bp), one may screen at lower stringencies in order to obtain sequences from the target sample which have 20-50% deviation (i.e., 50-80% sequence homology) from the sequences used as probe. Oligonucleotide probes can be considerably shorter than the entire nucleic acid sequence encoding an prenyltransferase or tocopherol cyclase enzyme, but should be at least about 10, preferably at least about 15, and more preferably at least about 20 nucleotides. A higher degree of sequence identity is desired when shorter regions are used as opposed to longer regions. It may thus be desirable to identify regions of highly conserved amino acid sequence to design oligonucleotide probes for detecting and recovering other related prenyltransferase or tocopherol cyclase genes. Shorter probes are often particularly useful for polymerase chain reactions (PCR), especially when highly conserved sequences can be identified. (See, Gould, et al., PNAS USA (1989) 86:1934-1938.).

Another aspect of the present invention relates to prenyltransferase or tocopherol cyclase polypeptides. Such polypeptides include isolated polypeptides set forth in the Sequence Listing, as well as polypeptides and fragments thereof, particularly those polypeptides which exhibit prenyltransferase or tocopherol cyclase activity and also those polypeptides which have at least 50%, 60% or 70% identity, preferably at least 80% identity, more preferably at least 90% identity, and most preferably at least 95% identity to a polypeptide sequence selected from the group of sequences set forth in the Sequence Listing, and also include portions of such polypeptides, wherein such portion of the polypeptide preferably includes at least 30 amino acids and more preferably includes at least 50 amino acids.

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"Identity", as is well understood in the art, is a relationship between two or more polypeptide sequences or two or more polynucleotide sequences, as determined by comparing the sequences. In the art, "identity" also means the degree of sequence relatedness between polypeptide or polynucleotide sequences, as determined by the match between strings of such sequences. "Identity" can be readily calculated by known methods including, but not limited to, those described in Computational Molecular Biology, Lesk, A.M., ed., Oxford University Press, New York (1988); Biocomputing: Informatics and Genome Projects, Smith, D.W., ed., Academic Press, New York, 1993; Computer Analysis of Sequence Data, Part I, Griffin, A.M. and Griffin, H.G., eds., Humana Press, New Jersey (1994); Sequence Analysis in Molecular Biology, von Heinje, G., Academic Press (1987); Sequence Analysis Primer, Gribskov, M. and Devereux, J., eds., Stockton Press, New York (1991); and Carillo, H., and Lipman, D., SIAM J Applied Math, 48:1073 (1988). Methods to determine identity are designed to give the largest match between the sequences tested. Moreover, methods to determine identity are codified in publicly available programs. Computer programs which can be used to determine identity between two sequences include, but are not limited to, GCG (Devereux, J., et al., Nucleic Acids Research 12(1):387 (1984); suite of five BLAST programs, three designed for nucleotide sequences queries (BLASTN, BLASTX, and TBLASTX) and two designed for protein sequence queries (BLASTP and TBLASTN) (Coulson, Trends in Biotechnology, 12: 76-80 (1994); Birren, et al., Genome Analysis, 1: 543-559 (1997)). The BLAST X program is publicly available from NCBI and other sources (BLAST Manual, Altschul, S., et al., NCBI NLM NIH, Belhesda, MD

20894; Altschul, S., et al., J. Mol. Biol., 215:403-410 (1990)). The well known Smith Waterman algorithm can also be used to determine identity.

Parameters for polypeptide sequence comparison typically include the following:

Algorithm: Needleman and Wunsch, J. Mol. Biol. 48:443-453 (1970)

Comparison matrix: BLOSSUM62 from Hentikoff and Hentikoff, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci USA* 89:10915-10919 (1992)

Gap Penalty: 12

Gap Length Penalty: 4

A program which can be used with these parameters is publicly available as the "gap"

program from Genetics Computer Group, Madison Wisconsin. The above parameters along with
no penalty for end gap are the default parameters for peptide comparisons.

Parameters for polynucleotide sequence comparison include the following:

Algorithm: Needleman and Wunsch, J. Mol. Biol. 48:443-453 (1970)

Comparison matrix: matches = +10; mismatches = 0

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Gap Length Penalty: 3

A program which can be used with these parameters is publicly available as the "gap" program from Genetics Computer Group, Madison Wisconsin. The above parameters are the default parameters for nucleic acid comparisons.

The invention also includes polypeptides of the formula:

$$X-(R_1)_n-(R_2)-(R_3)_n-Y$$

wherein, at the amino terminus, X is hydrogen, and at the carboxyl terminus, Y is hydrogen or a metal, R₁ and R₃ are any amino acid residue, n is an integer between 1 and 1000, and R₂ is an amino acid sequence of the invention, particularly an amino acid sequence selected from the group set forth in the Sequence Listing and preferably those encoded by the sequences provided in SEQ ID NOs: 2, 4, 6, 9, 12, 17, 19-22, 24-28, 30, 32-35, 37, and 39. In the formula, R₂ is oriented so that its amino terminal residue is at the left, bound to R₁, and its carboxy terminal residue is at the right, bound to R₃. Any stretch of amino acid residues denoted by either R group, where R is greater than 1, may be either a heteropolymer or a homopolymer, preferably a heteropolymer.

Polypeptides of the present invention include isolated polypeptides encoded by a polynucleotide comprising a sequence selected from the group of a sequence contained in the Sequence Listing set forth herein.

The polypeptides of the present invention can be mature protein or can be part of a fusion protein.

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Fragments and variants of the polypeptides are also considered to be a part of the invention. A fragment is a variant polypeptide which has an amino acid sequence that is entirely the same as part but not all of the amino acid sequence of the previously described polypeptides. The fragments can be "free-standing" or comprised within a larger polypeptide of which the fragment forms a part or a region, most preferably as a single continuous region. Preferred fragments are biologically active fragments which are those fragments that mediate activities of the polypeptides of the invention, including those with similar activity or improved activity or with a decreased activity. Also included are those fragments that antigenic or immunogenic in an animal, particularly a human.

15. Variants of the polypeptide also include polypeptides that vary from the sequences set forth in the Sequence Listing by conservative amino acid substitutions, substitution of a residue by another with like characteristics. In general, such substitutions are among Ala, Val, Leu and Ile; between Ser and Thr; between Asp and Glu; between Asn and Gln; between Lys and Arg; or between Phe and Tyr. Particularly preferred are variants in which 5 to 10; 1 to 5; 1 to 3 or one amino acid(s) are substituted, deleted, or added, in any combination.

Variants that are fragments of the polypeptides of the invention can be used to produce the corresponding full length polypeptide by peptide synthesis. Therefore, these variants can be used as intermediates for producing the full-length polypeptides of the invention.

The polynucleotides and polypeptides of the invention can be used, for example, in the transformation of host cells, such as plant host cells, as further discussed herein.

The invention also provides polynucleotides that encode a polypeptide that is a mature protein plus additional amino or carboxyl-terminal amino acids, or amino acids within the mature polypeptide (for example, when the mature form of the protein has more than one polypeptide chain). Such sequences can, for example, play a role in the processing of a protein from a precursor to a mature form, allow protein transport, shorten or lengthen protein half-life, or

facilitate manipulation of the protein in assays or production. It is contemplated that cellular enzymes can be used to remove any additional amino acids from the mature protein.

A precursor protein, having the mature form of the polypeptide fused to one or more prosequences may be an inactive form of the polypeptide. The inactive precursors generally are activated when the prosequences are removed. Some or all of the prosequences may be removed prior to activation. Such precursor protein are generally called proproteins.

Plant Constructs and Methods of Use

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Of particular interest is the use of the nucleotide sequences in recombinant DNA constructs to direct the transcription or transcription and translation (expression) of the prenyltransferase or tocopherol cyclase sequences of the present invention in a host plant cell. The expression constructs generally comprise a promoter functional in a host plant cell operably linked to a nucleic acid sequence encoding a prenyltransferase or tocopherol cyclase of the present invention and a transcriptional termination region functional in a host plant cell.

A first nucleic acid sequence is "operably linked" or "operably associated" with a second nucleic acid sequence when the sequences are so arranged that the first nucleic acid sequence affects the function of the second nucleic-acid sequence. Preferably, the two sequences are part of a single contiguous nucleic acid molecule and more preferably are adjacent. For example, a promoter is operably linked to a gene if the promoter regulates or mediates transcription of the gene in a cell.

Those skilled in the art will recognize that there are a number of promoters which are functional in plant cells, and have been described in the literature. Chloroplast and plastid specific promoters, chloroplast or plastid functional promoters, and chloroplast or plastid operable promoters are also envisioned.

One set of plant functional promoters are constitutive promoters such as the CaMV35S or FMV35S promoters that yield high levels of expression in most plant organs. Enhanced or duplicated versions of the CaMV35S and FMV35S promoters are useful in the practice of this invention (Odell, et al. (1985) Nature 313:810-812; Rogers, U.S. Patent Number 5,378, 619). In addition, it may also be preferred to bring about expression of the prenyltransferase or tocopherol

cyclase gene in specific tissues of the plant, such as leaf, stem, root, tuber, seed, fruit, etc., and the promoter chosen should have the desired tissue and developmental specificity.

Of particular interest is the expression of the nucleic acid sequences of the present invention from transcription initiation regions which are preferentially expressed in a plant seed tissue. Examples of such seed preferential transcription initiation sequences include those sequences derived from sequences encoding plant storage protein genes or from genes involved in fatty acid biosynthesis in oilseeds. Examples of such promoters include the 5' regulatory regions from such genes as napin (Kridl et al., Seed Sci. Res. 1:209:219 (1991)), phaseolin, zein, soybean trypsin inhibitor, ACP, stearoyl-ACP desaturase, soybean α' subunit of β-conglycinin (soy 7s, (Chen et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci., 83:8560-8564 (1986))) and oleosin.

It may be advantageous to direct the localization of proteins conferring prenyltransferase or tocopherol cyclase to a particular subcellular compartment, for example, to the mitochondrion, endoplasmic reticulum, vacuoles, chloroplast or other plastidic compartment. For example, where the genes of interest of the present invention will be targeted to plastids, such as chloroplasts, for expression, the constructs will also employ the use of sequences to direct the gene to the plastid. Such sequences are referred to herein as chloroplast transit peptides (CTP) or plastid transit peptides (PTP). In this manner, where the gene of interest is not directly inserted into the plastid, the expression construct will additionally contain a gene encoding a transit peptide to direct the gene of interest to the plastid. The chloroplast transit peptides may be derived from the gene of interest, or may be derived from a heterologous sequence having a CTP. Such transit peptides are known in the art. See, for example, Von Heijne et al. (1991) Plant Mol. Biol. Rep. 9:104-126; Clark et al. (1989) J. Biol. Chem. 264:17544-17550; della-Cioppa et al. (1987) Plant Physiol. 84:965-968; Romer et al. (1993) Biochem. Biophys. Res Commun. 196:1414-1421; and, Shah et al. (1986) Science 233:478-481.

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Depending upon the intended use, the constructs may contain the nucleic acid sequence which encodes the entire prenyltransferase or tocopherol cyclase protein, or a portion thereof. For example, where antisense inhibition of a given prenyltransferase or tocopherol cyclase protein is desired, the entire prenyltransferase or tocopherol cyclase sequence is not required. Furthermore, where prenyltransferase or tocopherol cyclase sequences used in constructs are intended for use as probes, it may be advantageous to prepare constructs containing only a

particular portion of a prenyltransferase or tocopherol cyclase encoding sequence, for example a sequence which is discovered to encode a highly conserved prenyltransferase or tocopherol cyclase region.

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The skilled artisan will recognize that there are various methods for the inhibition of expression of endogenous sequences in a host cell. Such methods include, but are not limited to, antisense suppression (Smith, et al. (1988) Nature 334:724-726), co-suppression (Napoli, et al. (1989) Plant Cell 2:279-289), ribozymes (PCT Publication WO 97/10328), and combinations of sense and antisense Waterhouse, et al. (1998) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 95:13959-13964. Methods for the suppression of endogenous sequences in a host cell typically employ the transcription or transcription and translation of at least a portion of the sequence to be suppressed. Such sequences may be homologous to coding as well as non-coding regions of the endogenous sequence.

Regulatory transcript termination regions may be provided in plant expression constructs of this invention as well. Transcript termination regions may be provided by the DNA sequence encoding the prenyltransferase or tocopherol cyclase or a convenient transcription termination region derived from a different gene source, for example, the transcript termination region which is naturally associated with the transcript initiation region. The skilled artisan will recognize that any convenient transcript termination region which is capable of terminating transcription in a plant cell may be employed in the constructs of the present invention.

Alternatively, constructs may be prepared to direct the expression of the prenyltransferase or tocopherol cyclase sequences directly from the host plant cell plastid. Such constructs and methods are known in the art and are generally described, for example, in Svab, et al. (1990)

Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 87:8526-8530 and Svab and Maliga (1993) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci.

USA 90:913-917 and in U.S. Patent Number 5,693,507.

The prenyltransferase or tocopherol cyclase constructs of the present invention can be used in transformation methods with additional constructs providing for the expression of other nucleic acid sequences encoding proteins involved in the production of tocopherols, or tocopherol precursors such as homogentisic acid and/or phytylpyrophosphate. Nucleic acid sequences encoding proteins involved in the production of homogentisic acid are known in the art, and include but not are limited to, 4-hydroxyphenylpyruvate dioxygenase (HPPD, EC

1.13.11.27) described for example, by Garcia, et al. ((1999) Plant Physiol. 119(4):1507-1516), mono or bifunctional tyrA (described for example by Xia, et al. (1992) J. Gen Microbiol. 138:1309-1316, and Iludson, et al. (1984) J. Mol. Biol. 180:1023-1051), Oxygenase, 4hydroxyphenylpyruvate di-(9CI), 4-I-lydroxyphenylpyruvate dioxygenase; Hydroxyphenylpyruvate p-Hydroxyphenylpyruvate dioxygenase; hydroxylase; oxidase; p-Hydroxyphenylpyruvic Hydroxyphenylpyruvate acid hydroxylase; p-Hydroxyphenylpyruvic hydroxylase; p-Hydroxyphenylpyruvic oxidase), 4-hydroxyphenylacetate, NAD(P)H:oxygen oxidoreductase (1-hydroxylating); 4-hydroxyphenylacetate 1-monooxygenase, and the like. In addition, constructs for the expression of nucleic acid sequences encoding proteins involved in the production of phytylpyrophosphate can also be employed with the prenyltransferase or tocopherol cyclase constructs of the present invention. Nucleic acid sequences encoding proteins involved in the production of phytylpyrophosphate are known in the art, and include, but are not limited to geranylgeranylpyrophosphate synthase (GGPPS), geranylgeranylpyrophosphate reductase (GGH), 1-deoxyxylulose-5-phosphate synthase, 1deoxy-D-xylolose-5-phosphate reductoisomerase, 4-diphosphocytidyl-2-C-methylerythritol synthase, isopentyl pyrophosphate isomerase.

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The prenyltransferase or tocopherol cyclase sequences of the present invention find use in the preparation of transformation constructs having a second expression cassette for the expression of additional sequences involved in tocopherol biosynthesis. Additional tocopherol biosynthesis sequences of interest in the present invention include, but are not limited to gammatocpherol methyltransferase (Shintani, et al. (1998) Science 282(5396):2098-2100), tocopherol cyclase, and tocopherol methyltransferase.

A plant cell, tissue, organ, or plant into which the recombinant DNA constructs containing the expression constructs have been introduced is considered transformed, transfected, or transgenic. A transgenic or transformed cell or plant also includes progeny of the cell or plant and progeny produced from a breeding program employing such a transgenic plant as a parent in a cross and exhibiting an altered phenotype resulting from the presence of a prenyltransferase or tocopherol cyclase nucleic acid sequence.

Plant expression or transcription constructs having a prenyltransferase or tocopherol cyclase as the DNA sequence of interest for increased or decreased expression thereof may be

employed with a wide variety of plant life, particularly, plant life involved in the production of vegetable oils for edible and industrial uses. Particularly preferred plants for use in the methods of the present invention include, but are not limited to: *Acacia*, alfalfa, aneth, apple, apricot, artichoke, arugula, asparagus, avocado, banana, barley, beans, beet, blackberry, blueberry, broccoli, brussels sprouts, cabbage, canola, cantaloupe, carrot, cassava, cauliflower, celery, cherry, chicory, cilantro, citrus, clementines, coffee, corn, cotton, cucumber, Douglas fir, eggplant, endive, escarole, eucalyptus, fennel, figs, garlic, gourd, grape, grapefruit, honey dew, jicama, kiwifruit, lettuce, leeks, lemon, lime, Loblolly pine, mango, melon, mushroom, nectarine, nut, oat, oil palm, oil seed rape, okra, onion, orange, an ornamental plant, papaya, parsley, pea, peach, peanut, pear, pepper, persimmon, pine, pineapple, plantain, plum, pomegranate, poplar, potato, pumpkin, quince, radiata pine, radicchio, radish, raspberry, rice, rye, sorghum, Southern pine, soybean, spinach, squash, strawberry, sugarbeet, sugarcane, sunflower, sweet potato, sweetgum, tangerine, tea, tobacco, tomato, triticale, turf, turnip, a vine, watermelon, wheat, yams, and zucchini.

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15. Most especially preferred are temperate oilseed crops. Temperate oilseed crops of interest include, but are not limited to, rapeseed (Canola and High Erucic Acid varieties), sunflower, safflower, cotton, soybean, peanut, coconut and oil palms, and corn. Depending on the method for introducing the recombinant constructs into the host cell, other DNA sequences may be required. Importantly, this invention is applicable to dicotyledyons and monocotyledons species alike and will be readily applicable to new and/or improved transformation and regulation techniques.

Of particular interest, is the use of prenyltransferase or tocopherol cyclase constructs in plants to produce plants or plant parts, including, but not limited to leaves, stems, roots, reproductive, and seed, with a modified content of tocopherols in plant parts having transformed plant cells.

For immunological screening, antibodies to the protein can be prepared by injecting rabbits or mice with the purified protein or portion thereof, such methods of preparing antibodies being well known to those in the art. Either monoclonal or polyclonal antibodies can be produced, although typically polyclonal antibodies are more useful for gene isolation. Western analysis may be conducted to determine that a related protein is present in a crude extract of the

desired plant species, as determined by cross-reaction with the antibodies to the encoded proteins. When cross-reactivity is observed, genes encoding the related proteins are isolated by screening expression libraries representing the desired plant species. Expression libraries can be constructed in a variety of commercially available vectors, including lambda gt11, as described in Sambrook, et al. (Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual, Second Edition (1989) Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Cold Spring Harbor, New York).

To confirm the activity and specificity of the proteins encoded by the identified nucleic acid sequences as prenyltransferase or tocopherol cyclase enzymes, in vitro assays are performed in insect cell cultures using baculovirus expression systems. Such baculovirus expression systems are known in the art and are described by Lee, et al. U.S. Patent Number 5,348,886, the entirety of which is herein incorporated by reference.

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In addition, other expression constructs may be prepared to assay for protein activity utilizing different expression systems. Such expression constructs are transformed into yeast or prokaryotic host and assayed for prenyltransferase or tocopherol cyclase activity. Such expression systems are known in the art and are readily available through commercial sources.

In addition to the sequences described in the present invention, DNA coding sequences useful in the present invention can be derived from algae, fungi, bacteria, mammalian sources, plants, etc. Homology searches in existing databases using signature sequences corresponding to conserved nucleotide and amino acid sequences of prenyltransferase or tocopherol cyclase can be employed to isolate equivalent, related genes from other sources such as plants and microorganisms. Searches in EST databases can also be employed. Furthermore, the use of DNA sequences encoding enzymes functionally enzymatically equivalent to those disclosed herein, wherein such DNA sequences are degenerate equivalents of the nucleic acid sequences disclosed herein in accordance with the degeneracy of the genetic code, is also encompassed by the present invention. Demonstration of the functionality of coding sequences identified by any of these methods can be carried out by complementation of mutants of appropriate organisms, such as *Synechocystis*. Shewanella, yeast, Pseudomonas, Rhodobacteria, etc., that lack specific biochemical reactions, or that have been mutated. The sequences of the DNA coding regions can be optimized by gene resynthesis, based on codon usage, for maximum expression in particular hosts.

For the alteration of tocopherol production in a host cell, a second expression construct can be used in accordance with the present invention. For example, the prenyltransferase or tocopherol cyclase expression construct can be introduced into a host cell in conjunction with a second expression construct having a nucleotide sequence for a protein involved in tocopherol biosynthesis.

The method of transformation in obtaining such transgenic plants is not critical to the instant invention, and various methods of plant transformation are currently available.

Furthermore, as newer methods become available to transform crops, they may also be directly applied hereunder. For example, many plant species naturally susceptible to Agrobacterium infection may be successfully transformed via tripartite or binary vector methods of Agrobacterium mediated transformation. In many instances, it will be desirable to have the construct bordered on one or both sides by T-DNA, particularly having the left and right borders, more particularly the right border. This is particularly useful when the construct uses A. tumefaciens or A. rhizogenes as a mode for transformation, although the T-DNA borders may find use with other modes of transformation. In addition, techniques of microinjection, DNA particle bombardment, and electroporation have been developed which allow for the transformation of various monocot and dicot plant species.

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Normally, included with the DNA construct will be a structural gene having the necessary regulatory regions for expression in a host and providing for selection of transformant cells. The gene may provide for resistance to a cytotoxic agent, e.g. antibiotic, heavy metal, toxin, etc., complementation providing prototrophy to an auxotrophic host, viral immunity or the like. Depending upon the number of different host species the expression construct or components thereof are introduced, one or more markers may be employed, where different conditions for selection are used for the different hosts.

Where Agrobacterium is used for plant cell transformation, a vector may be used which may be introduced into the Agrobacterium host for homologous recombination with T-DNA or the Ti- or Ri-plasmid present in the Agrobacterium host. The Ti- or Ri-plasmid containing the T-DNA for recombination may be armed (capable of causing gall formation) or disarmed (incapable of causing gall formation), the latter being permissible, so long as the vir genes are

present in the transformed Agrobacterium host. The armed plasmid can give a mixture of normal plant cells and gall.

In some instances where Agrobacterium is used as the vehicle for transforming host plant cells, the expression or transcription construct bordered by the T-DNA border region(s) will be inserted into a broad host range vector capable of replication in E. coli and Agrobacterium, there being broad host range vectors described in the literature. Commonly used is pRK2 or derivatives thereof. See, for example, Ditta, et al., (Proc. Nat. Acad. Sci., U.S.A. (1980) 77:7347-7351) and EPA 0 120 515, which are incorporated herein by reference. Alternatively, one may insert the sequences to be expressed in plant cells into a vector containing separate replication sequences, one of which stabilizes the vector in E. coli, and the other in Agrobacterium. See, for example, McBride, et al. (Plant Mol. Biol. (1990) 14:269-276), wherein the pRiHRI (Jouanin, et al., Mol. Gen. Genet. (1985) 201:370-374) origin of replication is utilized and provides for added stability of the plant expression vectors in host Agrobacterium cells.

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Included with the expression construct and the T-DNA will be one or more markers, which allow for selection of transformed Agrobacterium and transformed plant cells. A number of markers have been developed for use with plant cells, such as resistance to chloramphenicol, kanamycin, the aminoglycoside G418, hygromycin, or the like. The particular marker employed is not essential to this invention, one or another marker being preferred depending on the particular host and the manner of construction.

For transformation of plant cells using Agrobacterium, explants may be combined and incubated with the transformed Agrobacterium for sufficient time for transformation, the bacteria killed, and the plant cells cultured in an appropriate selective medium. Once callus forms, shoot formation can be encouraged by employing the appropriate plant hormones in accordance with known methods and the shoots transferred to rooting medium for regeneration of plants. The plants may then be grown to seed and the seed used to establish repetitive generations and for isolation of vegetable oils.

There are several possible ways to obtain the plant cells of this invention which contain multiple expression constructs. Any means for producing a plant comprising a construct having a DNA sequence encoding the expression construct of the present invention, and at least one

other construct having another DNA sequence encoding an enzyme are encompassed by the present invention. For example, the expression construct can be used to transform a plant at the same time as the second construct either by inclusion of both expression constructs in a single transformation vector or by using separate vectors, each of which express desired genes. The second construct can be introduced into a plant which has already been transformed with the prenyltransferase or tocopherol cyclase expression construct, or alternatively, transformed plants, one expressing the prenyltransferase or tocopherol cyclase construct and one expressing the second construct, can be crossed to bring the constructs together in the same plant.

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Transgenic plants of the present invention may be produced from tissue culture, and subsequent generations grown from seed. Alternatively, transgenic plants may be grown using apomixis. Apomixis is a genetically controlled method of reproduction in plants where the embryo is formed without union of an egg and a sperm. There are three basic types of apomictic reproduction: 1) apospory where the embryo develops from a chromosomally unreduced egg in an embryo sac derived from the nucleus, 2) diplospory where the embryo develops from an unreduced egg in an embryo sac derived from the megaspore mother cell, and 3) adventitious embryony where the embryo develops directly from a somatic cell. In most forms of apomixis, pseudogamy or fertilization of the polar nuclei to produce endosperm is necessary for seed viability. In apospory, a nurse cultivar can be used as a pollen source for endosperm formation in seeds. The nurse cultivar does not affect the genetics of the aposporous apomictic cultivar since the unreduced egg of the cultivar develops parthenogenetically, but makes possible endosperm production. Apomixis is economically important, especially in transgenic plants, because it causes any genotype, no matter how heterozygous, to breed true. Thus, with apomictic reproduction, heterozygous transgenic plants can maintain their genetic fidelity throughout repeated life cycles. Methods for the production of apomictic plants are known in the art. See, U.S. Patent No.5,811,636, which is herein incorporated by reference in its entirety.

The nucleic acid sequences of the present invention can be used in constructs to provide for the expression of the sequence in a variety of host cells, both prokaryotic eukaryotic. Host cells of the present invention preferably include monocotyledenous and dicotyledenous plant cells.

In general, the skilled artisan is familiar with the standard resource materials which describe specific conditions and procedures for the construction, manipulation and isolation of macromolecules (e.g., DNA molecules, plasmids, etc.), generation of recombinant organisms and the screening and isolating of clones, (see for example, Sambrook et al., Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual, Cold Spring Harbor Press (1989); Maliga et al., Methods in Plant Molecular Biology, Cold Spring Harbor Press (1995), the entirety of which is herein incorporated by reference; Birren et al., Genome Analysis: Analyzing DNA, 1, Cold Spring Harbor, New York, the entirety of which is herein incorporated by reference).

Methods for the expression of sequences in insect host cells are known in the art.

Baculovirus expression vectors are recombinant insect viruses in which the coding sequence for a chosen foreign gene has been inserted behind a baculovirus promoter in place of the viral gene, e.g., polyhedrin (Smith and Summers, U.S. Pat. No., 4,745,051, the entirety of which is incorporated herein by reference). Baculovirus expression vectors are known in the art, and are described for example in Doerfler, Curr. Top. Microbiol. Immunol. 131:51-68 (1968); Luckow and Summers, Bio/Technology 6:47-55 (1988a); Miller, Annual Review of Microbiol. 42:177-199 (1988); Summers, Curr. Comm. Molecular Biology, Cold Spring Harbor Press, Cold Spring Harbor, N.Y. (1988); Summers and Smith, A Manual of Methods for Baculovirus Vectors and Insect Cell Culture Procedures, Texas Ag. Exper. Station Bulletin No. 1555 (1988), the entireties of which is herein incorporated by reference)

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Methods for the expression of a nucleic acid sequence of interest in a fungal host cell are known in the art. The fungal host cell may, for example, be a yeast cell or a filamentous fungal cell. Methods for the expression of DNA sequences of interest in yeast cells are generally described in "Guide to yeast genetics and molecular biology", Guthrie and Fink, eds. Methods in enzymology, Academic Press, Inc. Vol 194 (1991) and Gene expression technology", Goeddel ed, Methods in Enzymology, Academic Press, Inc., Vol 185 (1991).

Mammalian cell lines available as hosts for expression are known in the art and include many immortalized cell lines available from the American Type Culture Collection (ATCC, Manassas, VA), such as HeLa cells, Chinese hamster ovary (CHO) cells, baby hamster kidney (BHK) cells and a number of other cell lines. Suitable promoters for mammalian cells are also known in the art and include, but are not limited to, viral promoters such as that from Simian

Virus 40 (SV40) (Fiers et al., Nature 273:113 (1978), the entirety of which is herein incorporated by reference). Rous sarcoma virus (RSV), adenovirus (ADV) and bovine papilloma virus (BPV). Mammalian cells may also require terminator sequences and poly-A addition sequences. Enhancer sequences which increase expression may also be included and sequences which promote amplification of the gene may also be desirable (for example methotrexate resistance genes).

Vectors suitable for replication in mammalian cells are well known in the art, and may include viral replicons, or sequences which insure integration of the appropriate sequences encoding epitopes into the host genome. Plasmid vectors that greatly facilitate the construction of recombinant viruses have been described (see, for example, Mackett et al., J Virol. 49:857 (1984); Chakrabarti et al., Mol. Cell. Biol. 5:3403 (1985); Moss, In: Gene Transfer Vectors For Mammalian Cells (Miller and Calos, eds., Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, N.Y., p. 10, (1987); all of which are herein incorporated by reference in their entirety).

The invention also includes plants and plant parts, such as seed, oil and meal derived from seed, and feed and food products processed from plants, which are enriched in tocopherols. Of particular interest is seed oil obtained from transgenic plants where the tocopherol level has been increased as compared to seed oil of a non-transgenic plant.

The harvested plant material may be subjected to additional processing to further enrich the tocopherol content. The skilled artisan will recognize that there are many such processes or methods for refining, bleaching and degumming oil. United States Patent Number 5,932,261, issued August 3, 1999, discloses on such process, for the production of a natural carotene rich refined and deodorised oil by subjecting the oil to a pressure of less than 0.060 mbar and to a temperature of less than 200.degree. C. Oil distilled by this process has reduced free fatty acids, yielding a refined, deodorised oil where Vitamin E contained in the feed oil is substantially retained in the processed oil. The teachings of this patent are incorporated herein by reference.

The invention now being generally described, it will be more readily understood by reference to the following examples which are included for purposes of illustration only and are not intended to limit the present invention.

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EXAMPLES

Example 1: Identification of Prenyltransferase or tocopherol cyclase Sequences

PSI-BLAST (Altschul, et al. (1997) Nuc Acid Res 25:3389-3402) profiles were generated 5 for both the straight chain and aromatic classes of prenyltransferases. To generate the straight chain profile, a prenyl-transferase from Porphyra purpurea (Genbank accession 1709766) was used as a query against the NCBI non-redundant protein database. The E. coli enzyme involved in the formation of ubiquinone, ubiA (genbank accession 1790473) was used as a starting sequence to generate the aromatic prenyltransferase profile. These profiles were used to search public and proprietary DNA and protein data bases. In Arabidopsis six putative prenyltransferases of the straight-chain class were identified, ATPT1, (SEQ ID NO:9), ATPT7 (SEQ ID NO:10), ATPT8 (SEQ ID NO:11), ATPT9 (SEQ ID NO:13), ATPT10 (SEQ ID NO:14), and ATPT11 (SEQ ID NO:15), and six were identified of the aromatic class, ATPT2 (SEQ ID NO:1), ATPT3 (SEQ ID NO:3), ATPT4 (SEQ ID NO:5), ATPT5 (SEQ ID NO:7), ATPT6 (SEQ ID NO:8), and ATPT12 (SEQ ID NO:16). Additional prenyltransferase sequences from other plants related to the aromatic class of prenyltransferases, such as soy (SEQ ID NOs: 19-23, the deduced amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:23 is provided in SEQ ID NO:24) and maize (SEQ ID NOs:25-29, and 31) are also identified. The deduced amino acid sequence of ZMPT5 (SEQ ID NO:29) is provided in SEQ ID NO:30. 20

Searches are performed on a Silicon Graphics Unix computer using additional
Bioaccellerator hardware and GenWeb software supplied by Compugen Ltd. This software and
hardware enables the use of the Smith-Waterman algorithm in searching DNA and protein
databases using profiles as queries. The program used to query protein databases is profilesearch.
This is a search where the query is not a single sequence but a profile based on a multiple
alignment of amino acid or nucleic acid sequences. The profile is used to query a sequence data
set, i.e., a sequence database. The profile contains all the pertinent information for scoring each
position in a sequence, in effect replacing the "scoring matrix" used for the standard query
searches. The program used to query nucleotide databases with a protein profile is tprofilesearch.
Tprofilesearch searches nucleic acid databases using an amino acid profile query. As the search is

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running, sequences in the database are translated to amino acid sequences in six reading frames. The output file for tprofilesearch is identical to the output file for profilesearch except for an additional column that indicates the frame in which the best alignment occurred.

The Smith-Waterman algorithm, (Smith and Waterman (1981) supra), is used to search for similarities between one sequence from the query and a group of sequences contained in the database. E score values as well as other sequence information, such as conserved peptide sequences are used to identify related sequences.

To obtain the entire coding region corresponding to the Arabidopsis prenyltransferase sequences, synthetic oligo-nucleotide primers are designed to amplify the 5' and 3' ends of partial cDNA clones containing prenyltransferase sequences. Primers are designed according to the respective Arabidopsis prenyltransferase sequences and used in Rapid Amplification of cDNA Ends (RACE) reactions (Frohman et al. (1988) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 85:8998-9002) using the Marathon cDNA amplification kit (Clontech Laboratories Inc, Palo Alto, CA).

Amino acid sequence alignments between ATPT2 (SEQ ID NO:2), ATPT3 (SEQ ID .5 - NO:4), ATPT4 (SEQ ID NO:6), ATPT8 (SEQ ID NO:12), and ATPT12 (SEQ ID NO:17) are performed using ClustalW (Figure 1), and the percent identity and similarities are provided in Table 1 below.

Table 1:

•	ATPT2	ATPT3	ATPT4	ATPT8	ATPT12
% Identity		12	13	11	15
% similar		25	25	22	32
% Gap		17	20	20	9
% Identity			12	6	22
r			29	16	38
			20	24	14
% Identity				9	14
% similar	•			18	29
% Gap			•	26	19
% Identity				•	7
	% similar % Gap % Identity % Identity % similar % Gap	% similar % Gap % Identity % Identity % Similar % Gap	% similar 25 % Gap 17 % Identity % Similar % Gap	% similar 25 25 % Gap 17 20 % Identity 12 29 20 % Identity % similar % Gap	% similar 25 25 22 % Gap 17 20 20 % Identity 12 6 7 29 16 20 24 % Identity 9 % similar 18 % Gap 26



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% similar		19
% Gap		20
ΛΤΡΤ12 % Identity		•
% similar		
% Gap	•	

Example 2: Preparation of Prenyl Transferase Expression Constructs

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A plasmid containing the napin cassette derived from pCGN3223 (described in USPN 5,639,790, the entirety of which is incorporated herein by reference) was modified to make it more useful for cloning large DNA fragments containing multiple restriction sites, and to allow the cloning of multiple napin fusion genes into plant binary transformation vectors. An adapter comprised of the self annealed oligonucleotide of sequence CGCGATTTAAATGGCGCGCCCTGCAGGCGCCCTGCAGGGCGCCCATTTAAAT (SEQ ID NO:40) was ligated into the cloning vector pBC SK+ (Stratagene) after digestion with the restriction endonuclease BssHII to construct vector pCGN7765. Plamids pCGN3223 and pCGN7765 were digested with Notl and ligated together. The resultant vector, pCGN7770, contains the pCGN7765 backbone with the napin seed specific expression cassette from pCGN3223.

The cloning cassette, pCGN7787, essentially the same regulatory elements as pCGN7770, with the exception of the napin regulatory regions of pCGN7770 have been replaced with the double CAMV 35S promoter and the tml polyadenylation and transcriptional termination region.

A binary vector for plant transformation, pCGN5139, was constructed from pCGN1558 (McBride and Summerfelt, (1990) Plant Molecular Biology, 14:269-276). The polylinker of pCGN1558 was replaced as a HindIII/Asp718 fragment with a polylinker containing unique restriction endonuclease sites, AscI, PacI, XbaI, SwaI, BamHI, and NotI. The Asp718 and HindIII restriction endonuclease sites are retained in pCGN5139.

A series of turbo binary vectors are constructed to allow for the rapid cloning of DNA sequences into binary vectors containing transcriptional initiation regions (promoters) and transcriptional termination regions.

The plasmid pCGN8618 was constructed by ligating oligonucleotides 5'TCGAGGATCCGCGGCCGCAAGCTTCCTGCAGG-3' (SEQ ID NO:41) and 5'TCGACCTGCAGGAAGCTTGCGGCCGCGGATCC-3' (SEQ ID NO:42) into Sall/Xholdigested pCGN7770. A fragment containing the napin promoter, polylinker and napin 3' region
was excised from pCGN8618 by digestion with Asp7181; the fragment was blunt-ended by filling
in the 5' overhangs with Klenow fragment then ligated into pCGN5139 that had been digested
with Asp718I and HindIII and blunt-ended by filling in the 5' overhangs with Klenow fragment.
A plasmid containing the insert oriented so that the napin promoter was closest to the blunted
Asp718I site of pCGN5139 and the napin 3' was closest to the blunted HindIII site was subjected
to sequence analysis to confirm both the insert orientation and the integrity of cloning junctions.
The resulting plasmid was designated pCGN8622.

The plasmid pCGN8619 was constructed by ligating oligonucleotides 5'TCGACCTGCAGGAAGCTTGCGGCCGCGGATCC -3' (SEQ ID NO:43) and 5'TCGAGGATCCGCGGCCGCAAGCTTCCTGCAGG-3' (SEQ ID NO:44) into Sall/Xholdigested pCGN7770. A fragment containing the napin promoter, polylinker and napin 3' region was removed from pCGN8619 by digestion with Asp718I; the fragment was blunt-ended by filling in the 5' overhangs with Klenow fragment then ligated into pCGN5139 that had been digested with Asp718I and HindIII and blunt-ended by filling in the 5' overhangs with Klenow fragment. A plasmid containing the insert oriented so that the napin promoter was closest to the blunted Asp718I site of pCGN5139 and the napin 3' was closest to the blunted HindIII site was subjected to sequence analysis to confirm both the insert orientation and the integrity of cloning junctions. The resulting plasmid was designated pCGN8623.

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The plasmid pCGN8620 was constructed by ligating oligonucleotides 5'TCGAGGATCCGCGGCCGCAAGCTTCCTGCAGGAGCT -3' (SEQ ID NO:45) and 5'CCTGCAGGAAGCTTGCGGCCGCGGATCC-3' (SEQ ID NO:46) into Sall/Sacl-digested
pCGN7787. A fragment containing the d35S promoter, polylinker and tml 3' region was
removed from pCGN8620 by complete digestion with Asp718I and partial digestion with NotI.
The fragment was blunt-ended by filling in the 5' overhangs with Klenow fragment then ligated
into pCGN5139 that had been digested with Asp718I and HindIII and blunt-ended by filling in
the 5' overhangs with Klenow fragment. A plasmid containing the insert oriented so that the

d35S promoter was closest to the blunted Asp718I site of pCGN5139 and the tml 3' was closest to the blunted HindlII site was subjected to sequence analysis to confirm both the insert orientation and the integrity of cloning junctions. The resulting plasmid was designated pCGN8624.

The plasmid pCGN8621 was constructed by ligating oligonucleotides 5'TCGACCTGCAGGAAGCTTGCGGCCGCGGATCCAGCT -3' (SEQ ID NO:47) and 5'GGATCCGCGGCCGCAAGCTTCCTGCAGG-3' (SEQ ID NO:48) into Sall/SacI-digested
pCGN7787. A fragment containing the d35S promoter, polylinker and tml 3' region was
removed from pCGN8621 by complete digestion with Asp718I and partial digestion with NotI.
The fragment was blunt-ended by filling in the 5' overhangs with Klenow fragment then ligated
into pCGN5139 that had been digested with Asp718I and HindIII and blunt-ended by filling in
the 5' overhangs with Klenow fragment. A plasmid containing the insert oriented so that the
d35S promoter was closest to the blunted Asp718I site of pCGN5139 and the tml 3' was closest
to the blunted HindIII site was subjected to sequence analysis to confirm both the insert
orientation and the integrity of cloning junctions. The resulting plasmid was designated
pCGN8625.

The plasmid construct pCGN8640 is a modification of pCGN8624 described above. A 938bp PstI fragment isolated from transposon Tn7 which encodes bacterial spectinomycin and streptomycin resistance (Fling et al. (1985), *Nucleic Acids Research* 13(19):7095-7106), a determinant for E. coli and Agrobacterium selection, was blunt ended with Pfu polymerase. The blunt ended fragment was ligated into pCGN8624 that had been digested with SpeI and blunt ended with Pfu polymerase. The region containing the PstI fragment was sequenced to confirm both the insert orientation and the integrity of cloning junctions.

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The spectinomycin resistance marker was introduced into pCGN8622 and pCGN8623 as follows. A 7.7 Kbp AvrII-SnaBI fragment from pCGN8640 was ligated to a 10.9 Kbp AvrII-SnaBI fragment from pCGN8623 or pCGN8622, described above. The resulting plasmids were pCGN8641 and pCGN8643, respectively.

The plasmid pCGN8644 was constructed by ligating oligonucleotides 5'GATCACCTGCAGGAAGCTTGCGGCCGCGGATCCAATGCA-3' (SEQ ID NO:49) and 5'-

TTGGATCCGCGCCAAGCTTCCTGCAGGT-3` (SEQ ID NO:50) into Baml II-Pstl digested pCGN8640.

Synthetic oligonulceotides were designed for use in Polymerase Chain Reactions (PCR) to amplify the coding sequences of ATPT2, ATPT3, ATPT4, ATPT8, and ATPT12 for the preparation of expression constructs and are provided in Table 2 below.

Table 2:

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Name	Restriction Site	Sequence	SEQ ID NO:
ATPT2	5' NotI	GGATCCGCGCCCCACAATGGAGTC	51
		TCTGCTCTAGTTCT	•
ATPT2	3' Ssel	GGATCCTGCAGGTCACTTCAAAAAA	52
ļ ·		GGTAACAGCAAGT	
ATPT3	5" NotI	GGATCCGCGCCCCACAATGGCGTT	53
		TTTTGGGCTCTCCCGTGTTT	,
ATPT3	3' Ssel	GGATCCTGCAGGTTATTGAAAACTT	54
		CTTCCAAGTACAACT	
ATPT4	5' NotI	GGATCCGCGCCCCACAATGTGGCG	55
		AAGATCTGTTGTT	
ATPT4	3' SseI	GGATCCTGCAGGTCATGGAGAGTAG	56 .
	·	AAGGAAGGAGCT	
ATPT8	5' NotI	GGATCCGCGGCCGCACAATGGTACT	57
		TGCCGAGGTTCCAAAGCTTGCCTCT	
ATPT8	3' SseI	GGATCCTGCAGGTCACTTGTTTCTG	58
	•	GTGATGACTCTAT	
ATPT12	5' NotI	GGATCCGCGCCCCACAATGACTTC	59
	•	GATTCTCAACACT	
ATPT12	3' SseI	GGATCCTGCAGGTCAGTGTTGCGAT	60
		GCTAATGCCGT	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·

The coding sequences of ATPT2, ATPT3, ATPT4, ATPT8, and ATPT12 were all amplified using the respective PCR primers shown in Table 2 above and cloned into the TopoTA vector (Invitrogen). Constructs containing the respective prenyltransferase sequences were digested with NotI and Sse8387I and cloned into the turbobinary vectors described above.

The sequence encoding ATPT2 prenyltransferase was cloned in the sense orientation into pCGN8640 to produce the plant transformation construct pCGN10800 (Figure 2). The ATPT2 sequence is under control of the 35S promoter.

The ATPT2 sequence was also cloned in the antisense orientation into the construct pCGN8641 to create pCGN10801 (Figure 3). This construct provides for the antisense expression of the ATPT2 sequence from the napin promoter.

The ATPT2 coding sequence was also cloned in the sense orientation into the vector pCGN8643 to create the plant transformation construct pCGN10822

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The ATPT2 coding sequence was also cloned in the antisense orientation into the vector pCGN8644 to create the plant transformation construct pCGN10803 (Figure 4).

The ATPT4 coding sequence was cloned into the vector pCGN864 to create the plant transformation construct pCGN10806 (Figure 5). The ATPT2 coding sequence was cloned into the vector TopoTA TM vector from Invitrogen, to create the plant transformation construct pCGN10807(Figure 6). The ATPT3 coding sequence was cloned into the TopoTA vector to create the plant transformation construct pCGN10808 (Figure 7). The ATPT3 coding sequence was cloned in the sense orientation into the vector pCGN8640 to create the plant transformation construct pCGN10809 (Figure 8). The ATPT3 coding sequence was cloned in the antisense orientation into the vector pCGN8641 to create the plant transformation construct pCGN10810 (Figure 9). The ATPT3 coding sequence was cloned into the vector pCGN8643 to create the plant transformation construct pCGN10811 (Figure 10). The ATPT3 coding sequence was cloned into the vector pCGN8644 to create the plant transformation construct pCGN10812 (Figure 11). The ATPT4 coding sequence was cloned into the vector pCGN8640 to create the plant transformation construct pCGN10813 (Figure 12). The ATPT4 coding sequence was cloned into the vector pCGN8641 to create the plant transformation construct pCGN10814 (Figure 13). The ATPT4 coding sequence was cloned into the vector pCGN8643 to create the plant transformation construct pCGN10815 (Figure 14). The ATPT4 coding sequence was cloned in the antisense orientation into the vector pCGN8644 to create the plant transformation construct pCGN10816 (Figure 15). The ATPT8 coding sequence was cloned in the sense orientation into the vector pCGN8643 to create the plant transformation construct pCGN10819 (Figure 17). The ATPT12 coding sequence was cloned into the vector pCGN8640 to create the plant transformation construct pCGN10824 (Figure 18). The ATPT12 coding sequence was cloned into the vector pCGN8643 to create the plant transformation construct pCGN10825 (Figure 19). The ATPT8 coding sequence was cloned into the vector pCGN8640 to create the plant transformation construct pCGN10826 (Figure 20).

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Example 3: Plant Transformation with Prenyl Transferase Constructs

Transgenic Brassica plants are obtained by Agrobacterium-mediated transformation as 5 described by Radke et al. (Theor. Appl. Genet. (1988) 75:685-694; Plant Cell Reports (1992) 11:499-505). Transgenic Arabidopsis thaliana plants may be obtained by Agrobacteriummediated transformation as described by Valverkens et al., (Proc. Nat. Acad. Sci. (1988) 85:5536-5540), or as described by Bent et al. ((1994), Science 265:1856-1860), or Bechtold et al. ((1993), C.R.Acad.Sci, Life Sciences 316:1194-1199). Other plant species may be similarly transformed using related techniques.

· Alternatively, microprojectile bombardment methods, such as described by Klein et al. (Bio/Technology 10:286-291) may also be used to obtain nuclear transformed plants.

Example 4: Identification of Additional Prenyltransferases

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15 -Additional BLAST searches were performed using the ATPT2 sequence, a sequence in the class of aromatic prenyltransferases. ESTs, and in some case, full-length coding regions, were identified in proprietary DNA libraries.

Soy full-length homologs to ATPT2 were identified by a combination of BLAST (using ATPT2 protein sequence) and 5' RACE. Two homologs resulted (SEQ ID NO:95 and SEQ ID NO:96). Translated amino acid sequences are provided by SEQ ID NO:97 and SEQ ID NO:98.

A rice est ATPT2 homolog is shown in SEQ ID NO:99 (obtained from BLAST using the wheat ATPT2 homolog).

Other homolog sequences were obtained using ATPT2 and PSI-BLAST, including est sequences from wheat (SEQ ID NO:100), leek (SEQ ID NOs:101 and 102), canola (SEQ ID NO:103), com (SEQ ID NOs:104, 105 and 106), cotton (SEQ ID NO:107) and tomato (SEQ ID NO:108).

A PSI-Blast profile generated using the E. coli ubiA (genbank accession 1790473). sequence was used to analyze the Synechocystis genome. This analysis identified 5 open reading frames (ORFs) in the Synechocystis genome that were potentially prenyltransferases; slr0926 (annotated as ubiA (4-hydroxybenzoate-octaprenyltransferase, SEQ ID NO:32), sll1899

(annotated as ctaB (cytocrome c oxidase folding protein, SEQ ID NO:33), slr0056 (annotated as g4 (chlorophyll synthase 33 kd subunit, SEQ ID NO:34), slr1518 (annotated as menA (menaquinone biosynthesis protein, SEQ ID NO:35), and slr1736 (annotated as a hypothetical protein of unknown function (SEQ ID NO:36).

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4A. Synechocystis Knock-outs

To determine the functionality of these ORFs and their involvement, if any, in the biosynthesis of tocopherols, knockouts constructs were made to disrupt the ORF identified in Synechocystis.

Synthetic oligos were designed to amplify regions from the 5' (5'-10 TAATGTGTACATTGTCGGCCTC (17365') (SEQ ID NO:61) and 5'-GCAATGTAACATCAGAGATTTTGAGACACAACGTGGCTTTCCACAATTCCCCGCACC GTC (1736kanpr1)) (SEQ ID NO:62) and 3' (5'-AGGCTAATAAGCACAAATGGGA (17363') (SEQ ID NO:63) and 5'-GGTATGAGTCAGCAACACCTTCTTCACGAGGCAGACCTCAGC GGAATTGGTTTAGGTTATCCC (1736kanpr2)) (SEQ ID NO:64) ends of the slr1736 ORF. The 1736kanpr1 and 1736kanpr2 oligos contained 20 bp of homology to the slr1736 ORF with an additional 40 bp of sequence homology to the ends of the kanamycin resistance cassette. Separate PCR steps were completed with these oligos and the products were gel purified and combined with the kanamycin resistance gene from puc4K (Pharmacia) that had been digested 20 with HincII and gel purified away from the vector backbone. The combined fragments were allowed to assemble without oligos under the following conditions: 94°C for 1 min, 55°C for 1 min, 72°C for 1 min plus 5 seconds per cycle for 40 cycles using pfu polymerase in 100ul reaction volume (Zhao, H and Amold (1997) Nucleic Acids Res. 25(6):1307-1308). One microliter or five microliters of this assembly reaction was then amplified using 5' and 3' oligos 25 nested within the ends of the ORF fragment, so that the resulting product contained 100-200 bp of the 5' end of the Synechocystis gene to be knocked out, the kanamycin resistance cassette, and 100-200 bp of the 3' end of the gene to be knocked out. This PCR product was then cloned into the vector pGemT easy (Promega) to create the construct pMON21681 and used for Synechocystis transformation.

Primers were also synthesized for the preparation of Synechocystis knockout constructs for the other sequences using the same method as described above, with the following primers. The ubiA 5' sequence was amplified using the primers 5'- GGATCCATGGTT GCCCAAACCCCATC (SEQ ID NO:65) and 5'- GCAATGTAACATCAGAGA TTTTGAGACACAACG TGGCTTTGGGTAAGCAACAATGACCGGC (SEQ ID NO:66). The 3' region was amplified using the synthetic oligonucleotide primers 5'-GAATTCTCAAAGCCAGCCCAGTAAC (SEQ ID NO:67) and 5'-GGTATGAGTC AGCAACACCTTCTTCACGAGGCAGACCTCAGCGGGTGCGAAAAGGGTTTTCCC (SEQ ID NO:68). The amplification products were combined with the kanamycin resistance gene from puc4K (Pharmacia) that had been digested with HincII and gel purified away from the vector 10 backbone. The annealed fragment was amplified using 5' and 3' oligos nested within the ends of the ORF fragment (5'- CCAGTGGTTTAGGCTGTGTGGTC (SEQ ID NO:69) and 5'-CTGAGTTGGATGTATTGGATC (SEQ ID NO:70)), so that the resulting product contained 100-200 bp of the 5' end of the Synechocystis gene to be knocked out, the kanamycin resistance cassette, and 100-200 bp of the 3' end of the gene to be knocked out. This PCR product was then cloned into the vector pGemT easy (Promega) to create the construct pMON21682 and used for Synechocystis transformation.

Primers were also synthesized for the preparation of *Synechocystis* knockout constructs for the other sequences using the same method as described above, with the following primers.

The sl11899 5' sequence was amplified using the primers 5'- GGATCCATGGTTACTT CGACAAAAATCC (SEQ ID NO:71) and 5'- GCAATGTAACATCAGAG ATTTTGAGACACAACGTGGCTTTGCTAGGCAACCGCTTAGTAC (SEQ ID NO:72). The 3' region was amplified using the synthetic oligonucleotide primers 5'- GAATTCTTAACCCAACAGTAAAGTTCCC (SEQ ID NO:73) and 5'- GGTATGAGTCAGC AACACCTTCTCACGAGGCAGACCTCAGCGCCGGCATTGTCTTTTACATG (SEQ ID NO:74). The amplification products were combined with the kanamycin resistance gene from puc4K (Pharmacia) that had been digested with *Hinc*II and gel purified away from the vector backbone. The annealed fragment was amplified using 5' and 3' oligos nested within the ends of the ORF fragment (5'- GGAACCCTTGCAGCCGCTTC (SEQ ID NO:75)

and 5'- GTATGCCCAACTGGTGCAGAGG (SEQ ID NO:76)), so that the resulting product contained 100-200 bp of the 5' end of the Synechocystis gene to be knocked out, the kanamycin resistance cassette, and 100-200 bp of the 3' end of the gene to be knocked out. This PCR product was then cloned into the vector pGem'T easy (Promega) to create the construct pMON21679 and used for Synechocystis transformation.

Primers were also synthesized for the preparation of Synechocystis knockout constructs for the other sequences using the same method as described above, with the following primers. The slr0056 5' sequence was amplified using the primers 5'-GGATCCATGTCTGACACACAAAATACCG (SEQ ID NO:77) and 5'-

GCAATGTAACATCAGAGATTTTGAGACACAACGTGGCTTTCGCCAATACCAGCCACC
AACAG (SEQ ID NO:78). The 3' region was amplified using the synthetic oligonucleotide
primers 5'- GAATTCTCAAAT CCCCGCATGGCCTAG (SEQ ID NO:79) and 5'GGTATGAGTCAGCAACACCTTCTTCACGAGGCAGACCTCAGCGGCCTACGGCTTGGA
CGTGTGGG (SEQ ID NO:80). The amplification products were combined with the kanamycin
resistance gene from puc4K (Pharmacia) that had been digested with HincII and gel purified
away from the vector backbone. The annealed fragment was amplified using 5' and 3' oligos
nested within the ends of the ORF fragment (5'- CACTTGGATTCCCCTGATCTG (SEQ ID
NO:81) and 5'- GCAATACCCGCTTGGAAAACG (SEQ ID NO:82)), so that the resulting
product contained 100-200 bp of the 5' end of the Synechocystis gene to be knocked out, the
kanamycin resistance cassette, and 100-200 bp of the 3' end of the gene to be knocked out. This
PCR product was then cloned into the vector pGemT easy (Promega) to create the construct

Primers were also synthesized for the preparation of Synechocystis knockout constructs for the other sequences using the same method as described above, with the following primers.

The slr1518 5' sequence was amplified using the primers 5'- GGATCCATGACCGAAT CTTCGCCCCTAGC (SEQ ID NO:83) and 5'-GCAATGTAACATCAGAGATTTTGA GACACAACGTGGC TTTCAATCCTAGGTAGCCGAGGCG (SEQ ID NO:84). The 3' region was amplified using the synthetic oligonucleotide primers 5'- GAATTCTTAGCCCAGGCC AGCCCAGCC (SEQ ID NO:85) and 5'- GGTATGAGTCAGCAACACCTTCTTCACGA

GGCAGACCTCAGCGGGGAATTGATTTGTTTAATTACC (SEQ ID NO:86). The

pMON21677 and used for Synechocystis transformation.

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amplification products were combined with the kanamycin resistance gene from puc4K (Pharmacia) that had been digested with Hinell and gel purified away from the vector backbone. The annealed fragment was amplified using 5' and 3' oligos nested within the ends of the ORF fragment (5'- GCGATCGCCATTATCGCTTGG (SEQ ID NO:87) and 5'-

GCAGACTGGCAATTATCAGTAACG (SEQ ID NO:88)), so that the resulting product contained 100-200 bp of the 5' end of the Synechocystis gene to be knocked out, the kanamycin resistance cassette, and 100-200 bp of the 3' end of the gene to be knocked out. This PCR product was then cloned into the vector pGemT easy (Promega) to create the construct pMON21680 and used for Synechocystis transformation.

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4B. Transformation of Synechocystis

Cells of Synechocystis 6803 were grown to a density of approximately 2x108 cells per ml and harvested by centrifugation. The cell pellet was re-suspended in fresh BG-11 medium (ATCC Medium 616) at a density of 1x109 cells per ml and used immediately for transformation.

- One-hundred microliters of these cells were mixed with 5 ul of mini prep DNA and incubated with light at 30C for 4 hours. This mixture was then plated onto nylon filters resting on BG-11 agar supplemented with TES pH8 and allowed to grow for 12-18 hours. The filters were then transferred to BG-11 agar + TES + 5ug/ml kanamycin and allowed to grow until colonies appeared within 7-10 days (Packer and Glazer, 1988). Colonies were then picked into BG-11 liquid media containing 5 ug/ml kanamycin and allowed to grow for 5 days. These cells were 20 then transferred to Bg-11 media containing 10ug/ml kanamycin and allowed to grow for 5 days and then transferred to Bg-11 + kanamycin at 25ug/ml and allowed to grow for 5 days. Cells were then harvested for PCR analysis to determine the presence of a disrupted ORF and also for HPLC analysis to determine if the disruption had any effect on tocopherol levels.
- 25 PCR analysis of the Synechocystis isolates for slr1736 and sll1899 showed complete segregation of the mutant genome, meaning no copies of the wild type genome could be detected in these strains. This suggests that function of the native gene is not essential for cell function. HPLC analysis of these same isolates showed that the sll1899 strain had no detectable reduction in tocopherol levels. However, the strain carrying the knockout for slr1736 produced no detectable levels of tocopherol.

The amino acid sequences for the *Synechocystis* knockouts are compared using ClustalW, and are provided in Table 3 below. Provided are the percent identities, percent similarity, and the percent gap. The alignment of the sequences is provided in Figure 21.

5 Table 3:

	Slr1736	slr0926	sl11899	slr0056	slr1518
slr1736 %identity		14	12	18	. 11
%similar		29 .	30	34	26
%gap		8 .	.7	10	5
slr0926 %identity			20	19	14
%similar		. ,	39	32	28
%gap			7	9	· 4
sll1899 %identity				17	13
%similar				29	29
%gap				12	9
slr0056 %identity					15
%similar	•		•		31
%gap				•	8
slr1518 %identity				•	•
%similar					
%gap	•			•	

Amino acid sequence comparisons are performed using various Arabidopsis prenyltransferase sequences and the Synechocystis sequences. The comparisons are presented in Table 4 below. Provided are the percent identities, percent similarity, and the percent gap. The alignment of the sequences is provided in Figure 22.

Table 4:

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· ·	ATPT2	slr1736	ЛТРТЗ	slr0926	ATPT4	sl11899	ATPT12	slr0056	ATPT8	slr1518
ATPT2		29	9	9	8	8	12	9	7	9 .

						<u>. </u>	<u></u>		<u></u> _
	46	23	21	20	20	28	23	21	20
	27	13	28	23	29	11	24	25	24
slr1736		9	13	8	12	13	15	. 8	10
		19	28	19	.28	26	33	21.	26 ,
		34	12	34	15	26	10	12	10
ATPT3		•	23	11	14	13	10	5	11
			36	26	26	26	21	14	22
			29	21	31	16	30	30	30
			•	12	20	17	20	11	14
slr0926			-	24	37	28	33	24 ⁻	29
				33	12	25	10	11	9.
,					18	11	8	6	7
ATPT4					33	23	18	16	19
				<i>,</i> ,	28	19	32	32	33
:						13	17	10	12
sll 1 899		.•				24	30	23	26
	• •					27	13	10	11
		·		•			52	8	11
ATPTI							66	19	26
2							18	25	72 .
								25 9	23
slr0056									13
3110030							. •	23	32 8
								.10	7
ATPT8									23
									23 7
		•	,		•				
slr1518			•	•	· .	•		•	
911710	·								
			·					 	·

4C. Phytyl Prenyltransferase Enzyme Assays

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[³H] Homogentisic acid in 0.1% H₃PO₄ (specific radioactivity 40 Ci/mmol). Phytyl pyrophosphate was synthesized as described by Joo, et al. (1973) Can J. Biochem. 51:1527. 2-methyl-6-phytylquinol and 2,3-dimethyl-5-phytylquinol were synthesized as described by Soll, et al. (1980) Phytochemistry 19:215. Homogentisic acid, α, β, δ, and γ-tocopherol, and tocol, were purchased commercially.

The wild-type strain of Synechocystis sp. PCC 6803 was grown in BG11 medium with bubbling air at 30°C under 50 µE.m⁻².s⁻¹ fluorescent light, and 70% relative humidity. The growth medium of slr1736 knock-out (potential PPT) strain of this organism was supplemented with 25 µg mL⁻¹ kanamycin. Cells were collected from 0.25 to 1 liter culture by centrifugation at 5000 g for 10 min and stored at -80°C.

Total membranes were isolated according to Zak's procedures with some modifications (Zak, et al. (1999) Eur J. Biochem 261:311). Cells were broken on a French press. Before the French press treatment, the cells were incubated for 1 hour with lysozyme (0.5%, w/v) at 30 °C in a medium containing 7 mM EDTA, 5 mM NaCl and 10 mM Hepes-NaOH, pH 7.4. The spheroplasts were collected by centrifugation at 5000 g for 10 min and resuspended at 0.1 - 0.5 mg chlorophyll·mL⁻¹ in 20 mM potassium phosphate buffer, pH 7.8. Proper amount of protease inhibitor cocktail and DNAase I from Boehringer Mannheim were added to the solution. French press treatments were performed two to three times at 100 MPa. After breakage, the cell suspension was centrifuged for 10 min at 5000g to pellet unbroken cells, and this was followed by centrifugation at 100 000 g for 1 hour to collect total membranes. The final pellet was resuspended in a buffer containing 50 mM Tris-HCL and 4 mM MgCl₂.

Chloroplast pellets were isolated from 250 g of spinach leaves obtained from local markets.

Devined leaf sections were cut into grinding buffer (2 1/250 g leaves) containing 2 mM EDTA, 1 mM MgCl₂, 1 mM MnCl₂, 0.33 M sorbitol, 0.1% ascorbic acid, and 50 mM Hepes at pH 7.5. The leaves were homogenized for 3 sec three times in a 1-L blendor, and filtered through 4 layers of mirocloth. The supernatant was then centrifuged at 5000g for 6 min. The chloroplast pellets were

resuspended in small amount of grinding buffer (Douce, et al Methods in Chloroplast Molecular Biology, 239 (1982)

Chloroplasts in pellets can be broken in three ways. Chloroplast pellets were first aliquoted in 1 mg of chlorophyll per tube, centrifuged at 6000 rpm for 2 min in microcentrifuge, and grinding buffer was removed. Two hundred microliters of Triton X-100 buffer (0.1% Triton X-100, 50 mM Tris-HCl pH 7.6 and 4 mM MgCl₂) or swelling buffer (10 mM Tris pH 7.6 and 4 mM MgCl₂) was added to each tube and incubated for ½ hour at 4°C. Then the broken chloroplast pellets were used for the assay immediately. In addition, broken chloroplasts can also be obtained by freezing in liquid nitrogen and stored at -80°C for ½ hour, then used for the assay.

In some cases chloroplast pellets were further purified with 40%/ 80% percoll gradient to obtain intact chloroplasts. The intact chloroplasts were broken with swelling buffer, then either used for assay or further purified for envelope membranes with 20.5%/ 31.8% sucrose density gradient (Sol, et al (1980) supra). The membrane fractions were centrifuged at 100 000g for 40 min and resuspended in 50 mM Tris-HCl pH 7.6, 4 mM MgCl₂.

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15 · : Various amounts of [³H]HGA, 40 to 60 μM unlabelled HGA with specific activity in the range of 0.16 to 4 Ci/mmole were mixed with a proper amount of 1M Tris-NaOH pH 10 to adjust pH to 7.6. HGA was reduced for 4 min with a trace amount of solid NaBH4. In addition to HGA, standard incubation mixture (final vol 1 mL) contained 50 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.6, 3-5 mM MgCl₂, and 100 μM phytyl pyrophosphate. The reaction was initiated by addition of Synechocystis total membranes, spinach chloroplast pellets, spinach broken chloroplasts, or spinach envelope membranes. The enzyme reaction was carried out for 2 hour at 23°C or 30°C in the dark or light. The reaction is stopped by freezing with liquid nitrogen, and stored at -80°C or directly by extraction.

A constant amount of tocol was added to each assay mixture and reaction products were extracted with a 2 mL mixture of chloroform/methanol (1:2, v/v) to give a monophasic solution. NaCl solution (2 mL; 0.9%) was added with vigorous shaking. This extraction procedure was repeated three times. The organic layer containing the prenylquinones was filtered through a 20 mµ filter, evaporated under N₂ and then resuspended in 100 µL of ethanol.

The samples were mainly analyzed by Normal-Phase HPLC method (Isocratic 90% Hexane and 10% Methyl-t-butyl ether), and use a Zorbax silica column, 4.6 x 250 mm. The samples were

also analyzed by Reversed-Phase HPLC method (Isocratic 0.1% II₃PO₄ in MeOH), and use a Vydac 2011IS54 C18 column; 4.6 x 250 mm coupled with an All-tech C18 guard column. The amount of products were calculated based on the substrate specific radioactivity, and adjusted according to the % recovery based on the amount of internal standard.

The amount of chlorophyll was determined as described in Arnon (1949) *Plant Physiol.* 24:1. Amount of protein was determined by the Bradford method using gamma globulin as a standard (Bradford, (1976) *Anal. Biochem.* 72:248)

Results of the assay demonstrate that 2-Methyl-6-Phytylplastoquinone is not produced in the *Synechocystis* slr1736 knockout preparations. The results of the phytyl prenyltransferase enzyme activity assay for the slr1736 knock out are presented in Figure 23.

4D. Complementation of the slr1736 knockout with ATPT2

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In order to determine whether ATPT2 could complement the knockout of slr1736 in Synechocystis 6803, a plasmid was constructed to express the ATPT2 sequence from the TAC promoter. A vector, plasmid psl1211, was obtained from the lab of Dr. Himadri Pakrasi of Washington University, and is based on the plasmid RSF1010 which is a broad host range plasmid (Ng W.-O., Zentella R., Wang, Y., Taylor J-S. A., Pakrasi, H.B. 2000. phrA, the major photoreactivating factor in the cyanobacterium Synechocystis sp. strain PCC 6803 codes for a cyclobutane pyrimidine dimer specific DNA photolyase. Arch. Microbiol. (in press)). The ATPT2 gene was isolated from the vector pCGN10817 by PCR using the following primers. ATPT2nco.pr 5'-CCATGGATTCGAGTAAAGTTGTCGC (SEQ ID NO:89); ATPT2ri.pr-5'-GAATTCACTTCAAAAAAGGTAACAG (SEQ ID NO:90). These primers will remove approximately 112 BP from the 5' end of the ATPT2 sequence, which is thought to be the chloroplast transit peptide. These primers will also add an Ncol site at the 5' end and an EcoRI site at the 3' end which can be used for sub-cloning into subsequent vectors. The PCR product from using these primers and pCGN10817 was ligated into pGEM T easy and the resulting vector pMON21689 was confirmed by sequencing using the m13forward and m13reverse primers. The Ncol/EcoRI fragment from pMON21689 was then ligated with the Eagl/EcoRI and Eagl/Ncol fragments from psl1211 resulting in pMON21690. The plasmid pMON21690 was introduced into the slr1736 Synechocystis 6803 KO strain via conjugation. Cells of s1906 (a helper strain) and DH10B cells containing pMON21690 were grown to log phase (O.D. 600= 0.4) and 1 ml was harvested by centrifugation. The cell pellets were washed twice with a sterile BG-11 solution and resuspended in 200 ul of BG-11. The following was mixed in a sterile eppendorf tube: 50 ul SL906, 50 ul DI110B cells containing pMON21690, and 100 ul of a fresh culture of the slr1736 Synechocystis 6803 KO strain (O.D. 730 = 0.2-0.4). The cell mixture was immediately transferred to a nitrocellulose filter resting on BG-11 and incubated for 24 hours at 30C and 2500 LUX(50 ue) of light. The filter was then transferred to BG-11 supplemented with 10ug/ml Gentamycin and incubated as above for ~5 days. When colonies appeared, they were picked and grown up in liquid BG-11 + Gentamycin 10 ug/ml. (Elhai, J. and Wolk, P. 1988. Conjugal transfer of DNA to Cyanobacteria. Methods in Enzymology 167, 747-54) The liquid cultures were then assayed for tocopherols by harvesting 1ml of culture by centrifugation, extracting with ethanol/pyrogallol, and HPLC separation. The slr1736 Synechocystis 6803 KO strain, did not contain any detectable tocopherols, while the slr1736 Synechocystis 6803 KO strain transformed with pmon21690 contained detectable alpha tocopherol. A Synechocystis 6803 strain transformed with psl1211(vector control) produced alpha tocopherol as well.

4E: Additional Evidence of Prenyltransferase Activity

To test the hypothesis that slr1736 or ATPT2 are sufficient as single genes to obtain

phytyl prenyltransferase activity, both genes were expressed in SF9 cells and in yeast. When
either slr1736 or ATPT2 were expressed in insect cells (Table 5) or in yeast, phytyl
prenyltransferase activity was detectable in membrane preparations, whereas membrane
preparations of the yeast vector control, or membrane preparations of insect cells did not exhibit
phytyl prenyltransferase activity.

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Table 5: Phytyl prenyltransferase activity

Enzyme source	Enzyme activity [pmol/mg x h]
slr1736 expressed in SF9 cells	20
ATPT2 expressed in SF9 cells	6
SF9 cell control	< 0.05

Synechocystis 6803	0.25
Spinach chloroplasts	0.20

Example 5: Transgenic Plant Analysis

5A. Arabidopsis

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Arabidopsis plants transformed with constructs for the sense or antisense expression of the ATPT proteins were analyzed by High Pressure Liquid Chromatography (HPLC) for altered levels of total tocopherols, as well as altered levels of specific tocopherols (alpha, beta, gamma, and delta tocopherol).

Extracts of leaves and seeds were prepared for HPLC as follows. For seed extracts, 10 mg of seed was added to 1 g of microbeads (Biospec) in a sterile microfuge tube to which 500 ul 1% pyrogallol (Sigma Chem)/ethanol was added. The mixture was shaken for 3 minutes in a mini Beadbeater (Biospec) on "fast" speed. The extract was filtered through a 0.2 um filter into an autosampler tube. The filtered extracts were then used in HPLC analysis described below.

Leaf extracts were prepared by mixing 30-50 mg of leaf tissue with 1 g microbeads and freezing in liquid nitrogen until extraction. For extraction, 500 ul 1% pyrogallol in ethanol was added to the leaf/bead mixture and shaken for 1 minute on a Beadbeater (Biospec) on "fast" speed. The resulting mixture was centrifuged for 4 minutes at 14,000 rpm and filtered as described above prior to HPLC analysis.

HPLC was performed on a Zorbax silica HPLC column (4.6 mm X 250 mm) with a fluorescent detection, an excitation at 290 nm, an emission at 336 nm, and bandpass and slits. Solvent A was hexane and solvent B was methyl-t-butyl ether. The injection volume was 20 ul, the flow rate was 1.5 ml/min, the run time was 12 min (40°C) using the gradient (Table 6):

Table 6:

25 <u>Time</u> Solvent A Solvent B 0 min. 90% 10% 10 min. 90% 10% 11 min. 25% 75% 12 min. 90% 10%

Tocopherol standards in 1% pyrogallol/ethanol were also run for comparison (alpha tocopherol, gamma tocopherol, beta tocopherol, delta tocopherol, and tocopherol (tocol) (all from Matreya).

Standard curves for alpha, beta, delta, and gamma tocopherol were calculated using Chemstation software. The absolute amount of component x is: Absolute amount of x= Response_x x RF_x x dilution factor where Response_x is the area of peak x, RF_x is the response factor for component x (Amount_x/Response_x) and the dilution factor is 500 ul. The ng/mg tissue is found by: total ng component/mg plant tissue.

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Results of the HPLC analysis of seed extracts of transgenic Arabidopsis lines containing pMON10822 for the expression of ATPT2 from the napin promoter are provided in Figure 24.

HPLC analysis results of segregating T2 Arabidopsis seed tissue expressing the ATPT2 sequence from the napin promoter (pCGN10822) demonstrates an increased level of tocopherols in the seed. Total tocopherol levels are increased as much as 50% over the total tocopherol levels of non-transformed (wild-type) Arabidopsis plants (Figure 25). Homozygous progeny from the top 3 lines (T3 seed) have up to a two-fold (100%) increase in total tocopherol levels over control Arabidopsis seed (Figure 26.)

Furthermore, increases of particular tocopherols are also increased in transgenic Arabidopsis plants expressing the ATPT2 nucleic acid sequence from the napin promoter. Levels of delta tocopherol in these lines are increased greater than 3 fold over the delta tocopherol levels obtained from the seeds of wild type Arabidopsis lines. Levels of gamma tocopherol in transgenic Arabidopsis lines expressing the ATPT2 nucleic acid sequence are increased as much as about 60% over the levels obtained in the seeds of non-transgenic control lines. Furthermore, levels of alpha tocopherol are increased as much as 3 fold over those obtained from non-transgenic control lines.

Results of the HPLC analysis of seed extracts of transgenic Arabidopsis lines containing pCGN10803 for the expression of ATPT2 from the enhanced 35S promoter (antisense orientation) are provided in Figure 25. Two lines were identified that have reduced total tocopherols, up to a ten-fold decrease observed in T3 seed compared to control Arabidopsis (Figure 27.)

5B. Canola

Brassica napus, variety SP30021, was transformed with pCGN10822 (napin-ATPT2-napin 3', sense orientation) using *Agrobacterium tumefaciens*-mediated transformation. Flowers of the R0 plants were tagged upon pollination and developing seed was collected at 35 and 45 days after pollination (DAP).

Developing seed was assayed for tocopherol levels, as described above for *Arabidopsis*. Line 10822-1 shows a 20% increase of total tocopherols, compared to the wild-type control, at 45 DAP. Figure 28 shows total tocopherol levels measured in developing canola seed.

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Example 6: Sequences to Tocopherol Cyclase

6A. Preparation of the slr1737 Knockout

The Synechocystis sp. 6803 slr1737 knockout was constructed by the following method. The GPSTM-1 Genome Priming System (New England Biolabs) was used to insert, by a Tn7 Transposase system, a Kanamycin resistance cassette into slr1737. A plasmid from a Synechocystis genomic library clone containing 652 base pairs of the targeted orf (Synechcocystis genome base pairs 1324051 - 1324703; the predicted orf base pairs 1323672 - 1324763, as annotated by Cyanobase) was used as target DNA. The reaction was performed according to the manufacturers protocol. The reaction mixture was then transformed into E. coli DH10B electrocompetant cells and plated. Colonies from this transformation were then screened for 20 transposon insertions into the target sequence by amplifying with M13 Forward and Reverse Universal primers, yielding a product of 652 base pairs plus ~1700 base pairs, the size of the transposon kanamycin cassette, for a total fragment size of ~2300 base pairs. After this determination, it was then necessary to determine the approximate location of the insertion within the targeted orf, as 100 base pairs of orf sequence was estimated as necessary for efficient 25 homologous recombination in Synechocystis. This was accomplished through amplification reactions using either of the primers to the ends of the transposon, Primer S (5' end) or N (3' end), in combination with either a M13 Forward or Reverse primer. That is, four different primer combinations were used to map each potential knockout construct: Primer S - M13 Forward, Primer S - M13 Reverse, Primer N - M13 Forward, Primer N - M13 Reverse. The construct 30

used to transform Symechocywlis and knockout slr1737 was determined to consist of a approximately 150 base pairs of slr1737 sequence on the 5' side of the transposon insertion and approximately 500 base pairs on the 3' side, with the transcription of the orf and kanamycin cassette in the same direction. The nucleic acid sequence of slr1737 is provided in SEQ ID NO:38 the deduced amino acid sequence is provided in SEQ ID NO:39.

Cells of Synechocystis 6803 were grown to a density of ~ 2x10⁸ cells per ml and harvested by centrifugation. The cell pellet was re-suspended in fresh BG-11 medium at a density of 1x10⁹ cells per ml and used immediately for transformation. 100 ul of these cells were mixed with 5 ul of mini prep DNA and incubated with light at 30C for 4 hours. This mixture was then plated onto nylon filters resting on BG-11 agar supplemented with TES ph8 and allowed to grow for 12-18 hours. The filters were then transferred to BG-11 agar + TES + 5ug/ml kanamycin and allowed to grow until colonies appeared within 7-10 days (Packer and Glazer, 1988). Colonies were then picked into BG-11 liquid media containing 5 ug/ml kanamycin and allowed to grow for 5 days. These cells were then transferred to Bg-11 media containing 10ug/ml kanamycin and allowed to grow for 5 days and then transferred to Bg-11 + kanamycin at 25ug/ml and allowed to grow for 5 days. Cells were then harvested for PCR analysis to determine the presence of a disrupted ORF and also for HPLC analysis to determine if the disruption had any effect on tocopherol levels.

PCR analysis of the *Synechocystis* isolates, using primers to the ends of the *slr1737* orf, showed complete segregation of the mutant genome, meaning no copies of the wild type genome could be detected in these strains. This suggests that function of the native gene is not essential for cell function. HPLC analysis of the strain carrying the knockout for *slr1737* produced no detectable levels of tocopherol.

25 6B. The relation of slr1737 and slr1736

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The slr1737 gene occurs in Synechocystis downstream and in the same orientation as slr1736, the phytyl prenyltransferase. In bacteria this proximity often indicates an operon structure and therefore an expression pattern that is linked in all genes belonging to this operon. Occasionally such operons contain several genes that are required to constitute one enzyme. To confirm that slr1737 is not required for phytyl prenyltransferase activity, phytyl prenyltransferase

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was measured in extracts from the Synechocystis slr1737 knockout mutant. Figure 29 shows that extracts from the Synechocystis sir1737 knockout mutant still contain phytyl prenyltransferase activity. The molecular organization of genes in Synechocystis 6803 is shown in A. Figures B and C show HPLC traces (normal phase HPLC) of reaction products obtained with membrane preparations from Synechocystis wild type and slr1737 membrane preparations, respectively.

The fact that slr1737 is not required for the PPT activity provides additional data that ATPT2 and slr1736 encode phytyl prenyltransferases.

6C Synechocystis Knockouts

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Synechocystis 6803 wild type and Synechocystis slr1737 knockout mutant were grown photoautotrophically. Cells from a 20 ml culture of the late logarithmic growth phase were harvested and extracted with ethanol. Extracts were separated by isocratic normal-phase HPLC using a Hexane/Methyl-t-butyl ether (95/5) and a Zorbax silica column, 4.6 x 250 mm. Tocopherols and tocopherol intermediates were detected by fluorescence (excitement 290 nm, 15 · emission 336 nm) (Figure 30).

Extracts of Synechocystis 6803 contained a clear signal of alpha-tocopherol. 2,3-Dimethyl-5-phytylplastoquinol was below the limit of detection in extracts from the Synechocystis wild type (C). In contrast, extracts from the Synechocystis slr1737 knockout mutant did not contain alpha-tocopherol, but contained 2,3-dimethyl-5-phytylplastoquinol (D), indicating that the interruption of slr1737 has resulted in a block of the 2,3-dimethyl-5phytylplastoquinol cyclase reaction.

Chromatograms of standard compounds alpha, beta, gamma, delta-tocopherol and 2,3dimethyl-5-phytylplastoquinol are shown in A and B. Chromatograms of extracts form Synechocystis wild type and the Synechocystis slr1737 knockout mutant are shown in C and D, respectively. Abbreviations: 2,3-DMPQ, 2,3-dimethyl-5-phytylplastoquinol.

6D. Incubation with Lysozyme treated Synechocystis

Synechocystis 6803 wild type and slr1737 knockout mutant cells from the late logarithmic growth phase (approximately 1g wet cells per experiment in a total volume of 3 ml) were treated with Lysozyme and subsequently incubated with S-adenosylmethionine, and

phytylpyrophosphate, plus radiolabelled homogentisic acid. After 17h incubation in the dark at room temperature the samples were extracted with 6 ml chloroform / methanol (1/2 v/v). Phase separation was obtained by the addition of 6 ml 0.9% NaCl solution. This procedure was repeated three times. Under these conditions 2,3-dimethyl-5-phytylplastoquinol is oxidized to form 2,3-dimethyl-5-phytylplastoquinone.

The extracts were analyzed by normal phase and reverse phase HPLC. Using extracts from wild type Synechocystis cells radiolabelled gamma-tocopherol and traces of radiolabelled 2,3-dimethyl-5-phytylplastoquinone were detected. When extracts from the slr1737 knockout mutant were analyzed, only radiolabelled 2,3-dimethyl-5-phytylplastoquinone was detectable.

The amount of 2,3-dimethyl-5-phytylplastoquinone was significantly increased compared to wild type extracts. Heat treated samples of the wild type and the slr1737 knockout mutant did not produce radiolabelled 2,3-dimethyl-5-phytylplastoquinone, nor radiolabelled tocopherols. These results further support the role of the slr1737 expression product in the cyclization of 2,3-dimethyl-5-phytylplastoquinol.

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6E. Arabidopsis Homologue to slr1737

An Arabidopsis homologue to slr1737 was identified from a BLASTALL search using Synechocystis sp 6803 gene slr1737 as the query, in both public and proprietary databases. SEQ ID NO:109 and SEQ ID NO:110 are the DNA and translated amino acid sequences, respectively, of the Arabidopsis homologue to slr1737. The start if found at the ATG at base 56 in SEQ ID NO:109.

The sequences obtained for the homologue from the proprietary database differs from the public database (F4D11.30, BAC AL022537), in having a start site 471 base pairs upstream of the start identified in the public sequence. A comparison of the public and proprietary sequences is provided in Figure 31. The correct start correlates within the public database sequence is at 12080, while the public sequence start is given as being at 11609.

Attempts to amplify a slr1737 homologue were unsuccessful using primers designed from the public database, while amplification of the gene was accomplished with primers obtained from SEQ ID NO:109.

Analysis of the protein sequence to identify transit peptide sequence predicted two potential cleavage sites, one between amino acids 48 and 49, and the other between amino acids 98 and 99.

6F. slr1737 Protein Information

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The slr1737 orf comprises 363 amino acid residues and has a predicted MW of 41kDa (SEQ ID NO: 39). Hydropathic analysis indicates the protein is hydrophillic (Figure 32).

The Arabidopsis homologue to slr1737 (SEQ ID xx) comprises 488 amino acid residues, has a predicted MW of 55kDa, and a has a putative transit peptide sequence comprising the first 98 amino acids. The predicted MW of the mature form of the Arabidopsis homologue is 44kDa. The hydropathic plot for the Arabidopsis homologue also reveals that it is hydrophillic (Figure 33). Further blast analysis of the Arabidopsis homologue reveals limited sequence identity (25 % sequence identity) with the beta-subunit of respiratory nitrate reductase. Based on the sequence identity to nitrate reductase, it suggests the slr1737 orf is an enzyme that likely involves general acid catalysis mechanism.

Investigation of known enzymes involved in tocopherol metabolism indicated that the best candidate corresponding to the general acid mechanism is the tocopherol cyclase. There are many known examples of cyclases including, tocopherol cyclase, chalcone isomerase, lycopene cyclase, and aristolochene synthase. By further examination of the microscopic catalytic mechanism of phytoplastoquinol cyclization, as an example, chalcone isomerase has a catalytic mechanism most similar to tocopherol cyclase. (Figure 34).

Multiple sequence alignment was performed between slr1737, slr1737 Arabidopsis homologue and the Arabidopsis chalcone isomerase (Genbank:P41088) (Figure 35). 65% of the conserved residues among the three enzymes are strictly conserved within the known chalcone isomerases. The crystal structure of alfalfa chalcone isomerase has been solved (Jez, Joseph M., Bowman, Marianne E., Dixon, Richard A., and Noel, Joseph P. (2000) "Structure and mechanism of the evolutionarily unique plant enzyme chalcone isomerase". Nature Structural Biology 7: 786-791.) It has been demonstrated tyrosine (Y) 106 of the alfalfa chalcone isomerase serves as the general acid during cyclization reaction (Genbank: P28012). The

equivalent residue in slr1737 and the slr1737 Arabidopsis homolog is lysine (K), which is an excellent catalytic residue as general acid.

The information available from partial purification of tocopherol cyclase from *Chlorella* protothecoides (U.S. Patent No. 5,432,069), i.e., described as being glycine rich, water soluble and with a predicted MW of 48-50kDa, is consistent with the protein informatics information obtained for the slr1737 and the Arabidopsis slr1737 homologue.

All publications and patent applications mentioned in this specification are indicative of the level of skill of those skilled in the art to which this invention pertains. All publications and patent applications are herein incorporated by reference to the same extent as if each individual publication or patent application was specifically and individually indicated to be incorporated by reference.

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Although the foregoing invention has been described in some detail by way of illustration and example for purposes of clarity of understanding, it will be obvious that certain changes and modifications may be practiced within the scope of the appended claim.

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

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- 1. An isolated nucleic acid sequence encoding a prenyltransferase.
- 2. An isolated nucleic acid sequence according to Claim 1, wherein said prenyltransserase is selected from the group consisting of straight chain prenyltransferase and aromatic prenyltransserase.
 - 3. An isolated DNA sequence according to Claim 1, wherein said nucleic acid sequence is isolated from a eukaryotic cell source.
 - 4. An isolated DNA sequence according to Claim 3, wherein said eukaryotic cell source is selected from the group consisting of mammalian, nematode, fungal, and plant cells.
 - 5. The DNA encoding sequence of Claim 4 wherein said prenyltransferase protein is from Arabidopsis.
- 6. The DNA encoding sequence of Claim 5 wherein said prenyltransferase protein is encoded by a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:11, SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, and SEQ ID NO:16.
 - 7. The DNA encoding sequence of Claim 4 wherein said prenyltransferase protein is from soybean.
- 8. The DNA encoding sequence of Claim 7 wherein said prenyltransferase protein is encoded by a sequence comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, and SEQ ID NO:23.
 - 9. The DNA encoding sequence of Claim 7 wherein said prenyltransferase protein is encoded by a sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:95, and SEQ ID NO:96.
- 10. The DNA encoding sequence of Claim 7 wherein said prenyltransferase protein has an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:97, and SEQ ID NO:98.
 - 11. The DNA encoding sequence of Claim 4 wherein said prenyltransferase protein is from corn.
 - 12. The DNA encoding sequence of Claim 11 wherein said prenyltransferase protein is encoded by a sequence comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:25, SEQ ID NO:26, SEQ ID NO:27, SEQ ID NO:28, SEQ ID NO:29, SEQ ID NO:31, SEQ ID NO:104, SEQ ID NO:105, and SEQ ID NO:106.

13. The DNA encoding sequence of Claim 4 wherein said prenyltransferase protein is from rice.

- 14. The DNA encoding sequence of Claim 13 wherein said prenyltransferase protein is encoded by a sequence comprising SEQ ID NO:99.
- 15. The DNA encoding sequence of Claim 4 wherein said prenyltransferase protein is from 5 wheat.
 - 16. The DNA encoding sequence of Claim 15 wherein said prenyltransferase protein is encoded by a sequence comprising SEQ ID NO:100.
 - 17. The DNA encoding sequence of Claim 4 wherein said prenyltransferase protein is from leek.
- 18. The DNA encoding sequence of Claim 17 wherein said prenyltransferase protein is encoded by a sequence comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:101, and SEQ ID NO:102.
 - 19. The DNA encoding sequence of Claim 4 wherein said prenyltransferase protein is from canola.
- 20. The DNA encoding sequence of Claim 19 wherein said prenyltransferase protein is encoded 15 by a sequence comprising SEQ ID NO:103.
 - 21. The DNA encoding sequence of Claim 4 wherein said prenyltransferase protein is from cotton.
 - 22. The DNA encoding sequence of Claim 21 wherein said prenyltransferase protein is encoded by a sequence comprising SEQ ID NO:107.
- 23. The DNA encoding sequence of Claim 4 wherein said prenyltransferase protein is from tomato.
 - 24. The DNA encoding sequence of Claim 23 wherein said prenyltransferase protein is encoded by a sequence comprising SEQ ID NO:108.
- 25. An isolated DNA sequence according to Claim 4, wherein said prokaryotic source is a Synechocystis sp.
 - 26. A nucleic acid construct comprising as operably linked components, a transcriptional initiation region functional in a host cell, a nucleic acid sequence encoding a prenyltransferase, and a transcriptional termination region.

27. A nucleic acid construct according to Claim 26, wherein said nucleic acid sequence encoding prenyltransferase is obtained from an organism selected from the group consisting of a eukaryotic organism and a prokaryotic organism.

- 28. A nucleic acid construct according to Claim 27, wherein said nucleic acid sequence encoding prenyltransferase is obtained from a plant source.
 - 29. A nucleic acid construct according to Claim 28, wherein said nucleic acid sequence encoding prenyltransferase is obtained from a source selected from the group consisting of *Arabidopsis*, soybean, corn, rice, wheat, leek canola, , leek, cotton, and tomato.
- 30. A nucleic acid construct according to Claim 26, wherein said nucleic acid sequence encoding prenyltransferase is obtained from a Synechocystis sp.
 - 31. A plant cell comprising the construct of 26.
 - 32. A plant comprising a cell of Claim 31.
 - 33 A feed composition produced from a plant according to Claim 32.
 - 34. A seed comprising a cell of Claim 31.
- 15 . 35 Oil obtained from a seed of Claim 34.

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- 36. A natural tocopherol rich refined and deodorised oil which has been produced by a method of treating an oil according to Claim 35 by distilling under low pressure and high temperature, wherein said refined oil has reduced free fatty acids and a substantial percentage of tocopherol present in the pretreated oil.
- 37. A refined oil according to claim 36, wherein the pretreated oil is crude or pre-treated soybean oil.
- 38. A refined oil according to claim 36, wherein the refined oil is degummed and bleached.
- 40. A method for the alteration of the isoprenoid content in a host cell, said method comprising;
 transforming said host cell with a construct comprising as operably linked components, a transcriptional initiation region functional in a host cell, a nucleic acid sequence encoding prenyltransferase, and a transcriptional termination region,

wherein said isoprenoid compound selected from the group of tocopherols and tocotrienols.

41. The method according to Claim 40, wherein said host cell is selected from the group consisting of a prokaryotic cell and a eukaryotic cell.

- 42. The method according to Claim 41, wherein said prokaryotic cell is a Synechocystis sp.
- 43. The method according to Claim 41, wherein said cukaryotic cell is a plant cell.
- 44. The method according to Claim 43, wherein said plant cell is obtained from a plant selected from the group consisting of *Arabidopsis*, soybean, corn, rice, wheat, leek canola, , leek, cotton, and tomato.
- 45. A method for producing an isoprenoid compound of interest in a host cell, said method comprising obtaining a transformed host cell, said host cell having and expressing in its genome:

a construct having a DNA sequence encoding a prenyltransferase operably linked to a transcriptional initiation region functional in a host cell,

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wherein said prenyltransferase is involved in the synthesis of tocopherols, and wherein said isoprenoid compound selected from the group of tocopherols and tocotrienols.

- 46. The method according to Claim 45, wherein said host cell is selected from the group consisting of a prokaryotic cell and a eukaryotic cell.
 - 47. The method according to Claim 46, wherein said prokaryotic cell is a Synechocystis sp.
 - 48. The method according to Claim 46, wherein said eukaryotic cell is a plant cell.
- 49. The method according to Claim 48, wherein said plant cell is obtained from a plant selected from the group consisting wherein said compound selected from the group of *Arabidopsis*, soybean, corn, rice, wheat, leek canola, , leek, cotton, and tomato.
- 50. A method for increasing the biosynthetic flux in a host cell toward production of an isoprenoid compound, said method comprising;

transforming said host cell with a construct comprising as operably linked components, a transcriptional initiation region functional in a host cell, a DNA encoding a prenyltransferase, and a transcriptional termination region,

wherein said isoprenoid compound selected from the group of tocopherols and tocotrienols,.

- 51. The method according to Claim 50, wherein said host cell is selected from the group consisting of a prokaryotic cell and a eukaryotic cell.
 - 52. The method according to Claim 51, wherein said prokaryotic cell is a Synechocystis sp.
 - 53. The method according to Claim 51, wherein said eukaryotic cell is a plant cell.

54. The method according to Claim 50, wherein said plant cell is obtained from a plant selected from the group consisting *Arabidopsis*, soybean, corn, rice, wheat, leek canola, , leek, cotton, and tomato.

55. The method according to Claim 50, wherein said transcriptional initiation region is a seed-specific promoter.

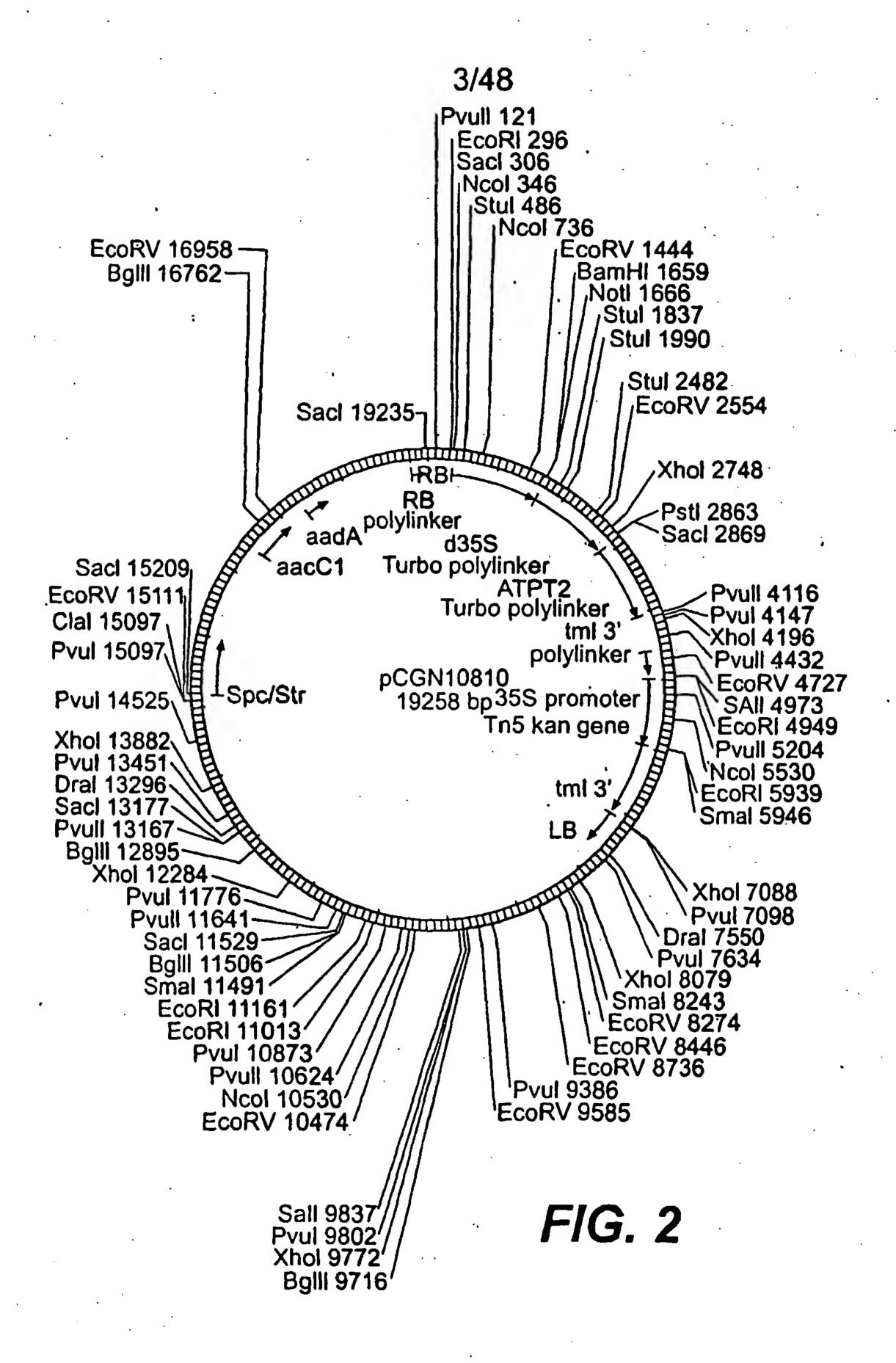
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FIG. 1

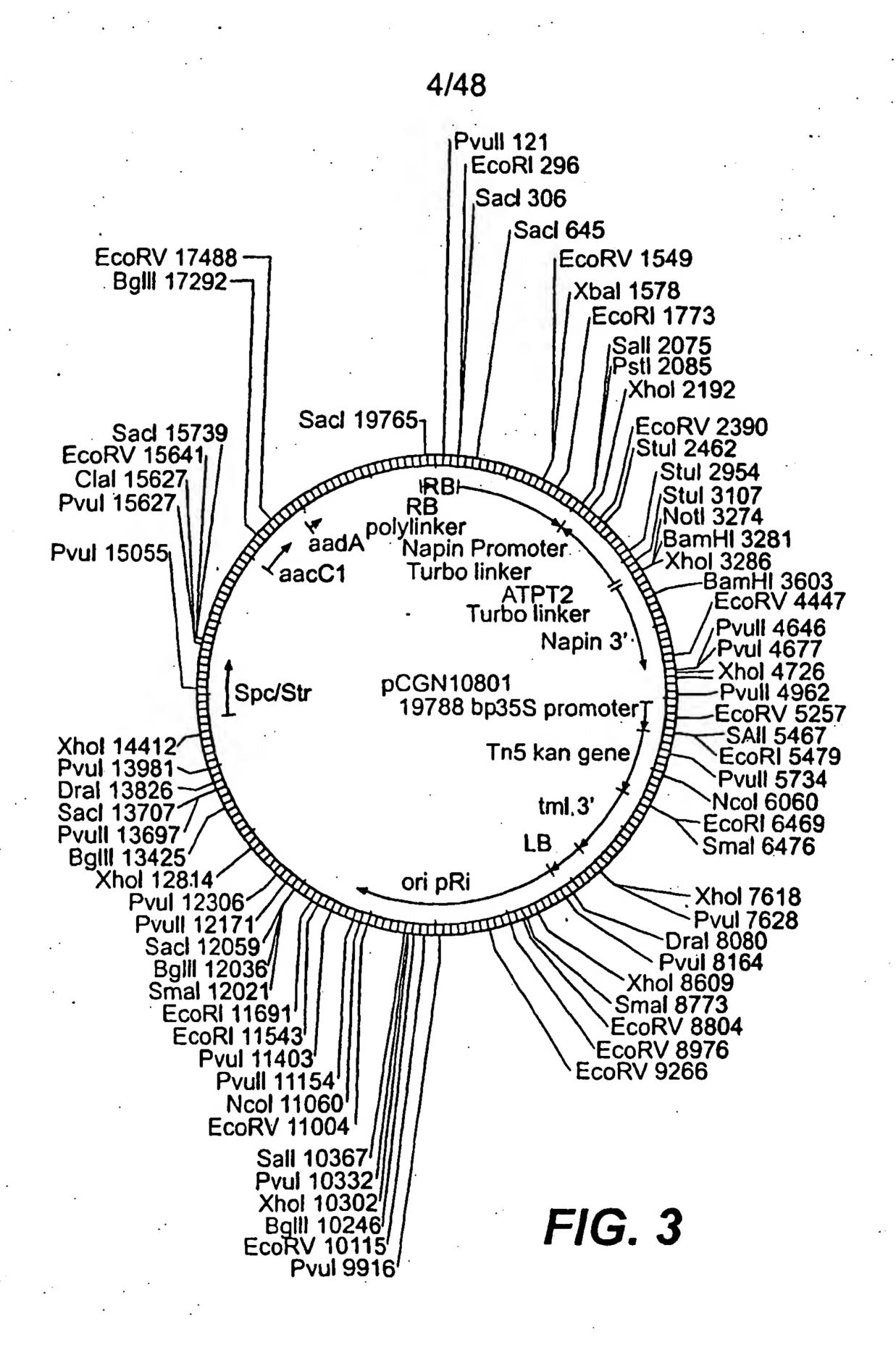
	ATPT2 ATPT3 ATPT4 ATPT8 ATPT12	ATPT2 ATPT3 ATPT4 ATPT8 ATPT12	ATPT2 ATPT3 ATPT4 ATPT12 ATPT12
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FIG. 1 (CONT)

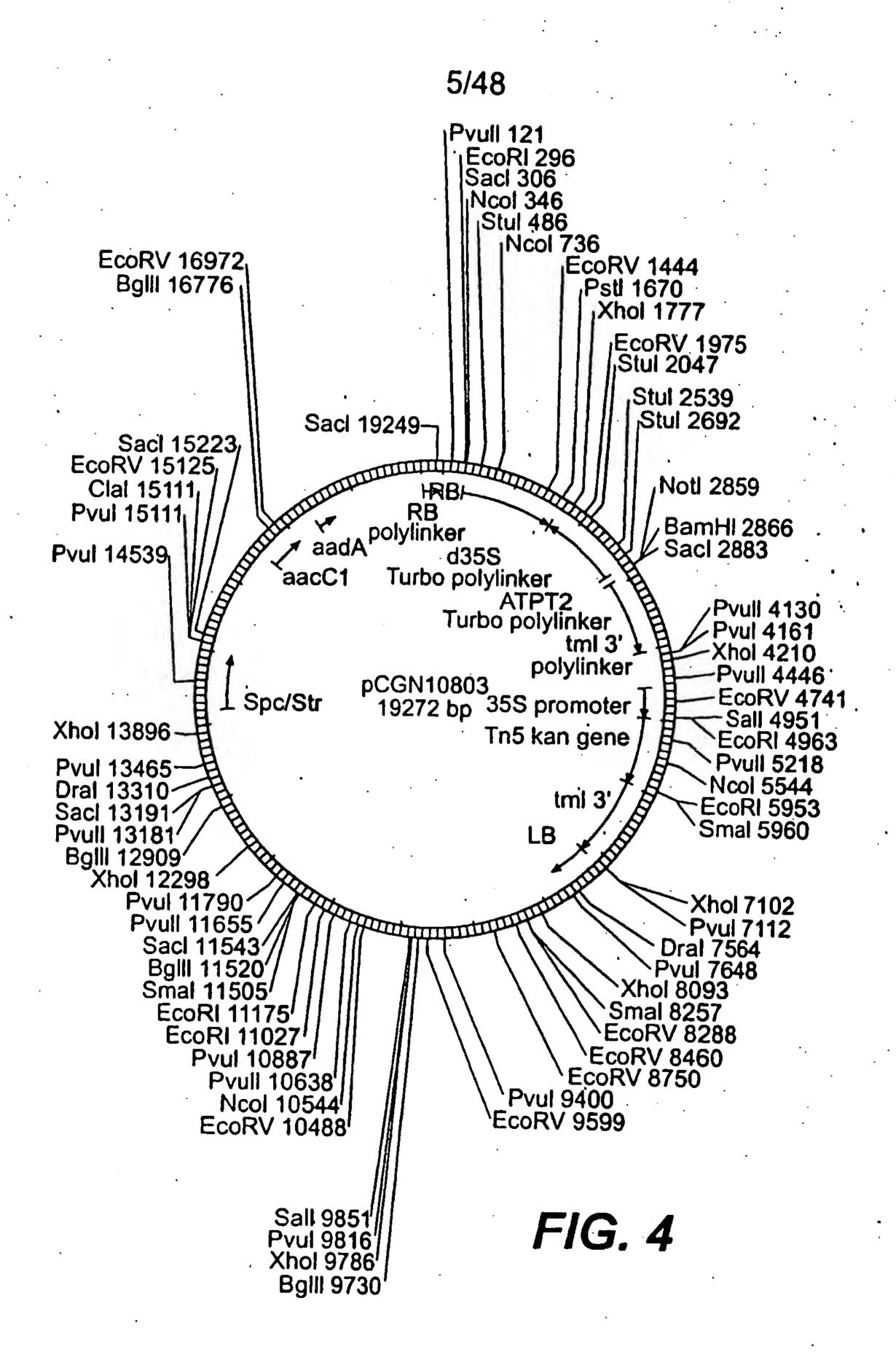
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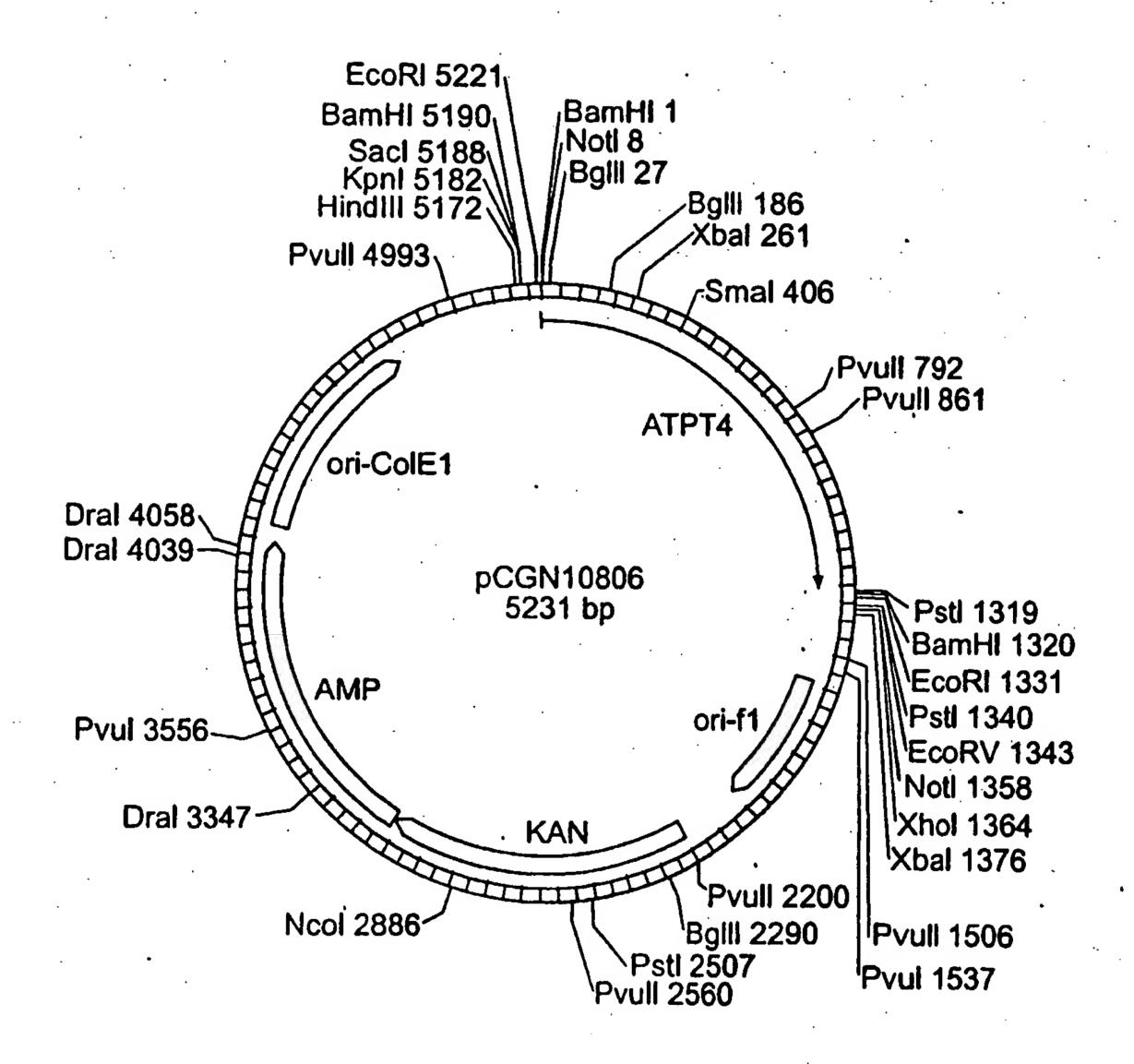


FIG. 5

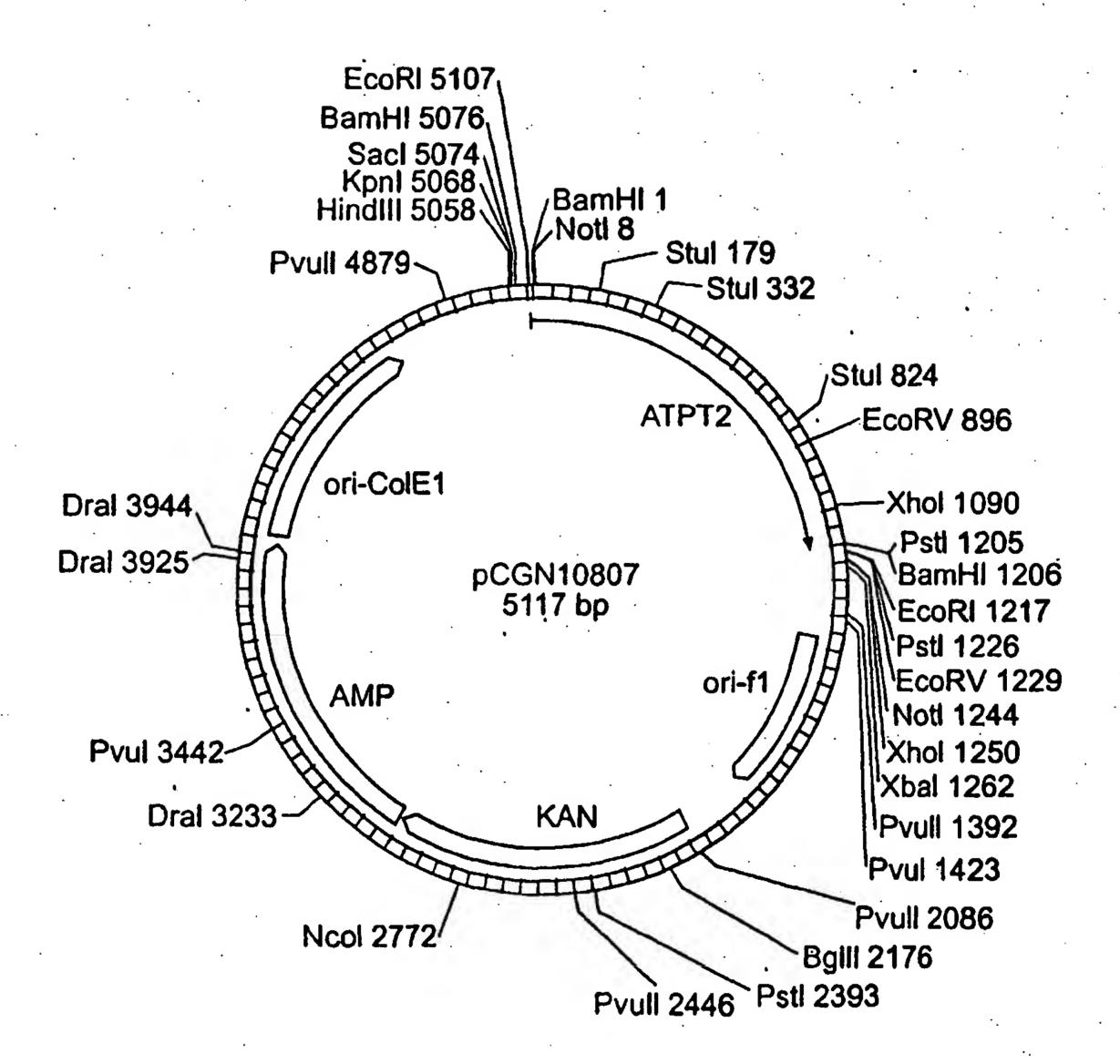
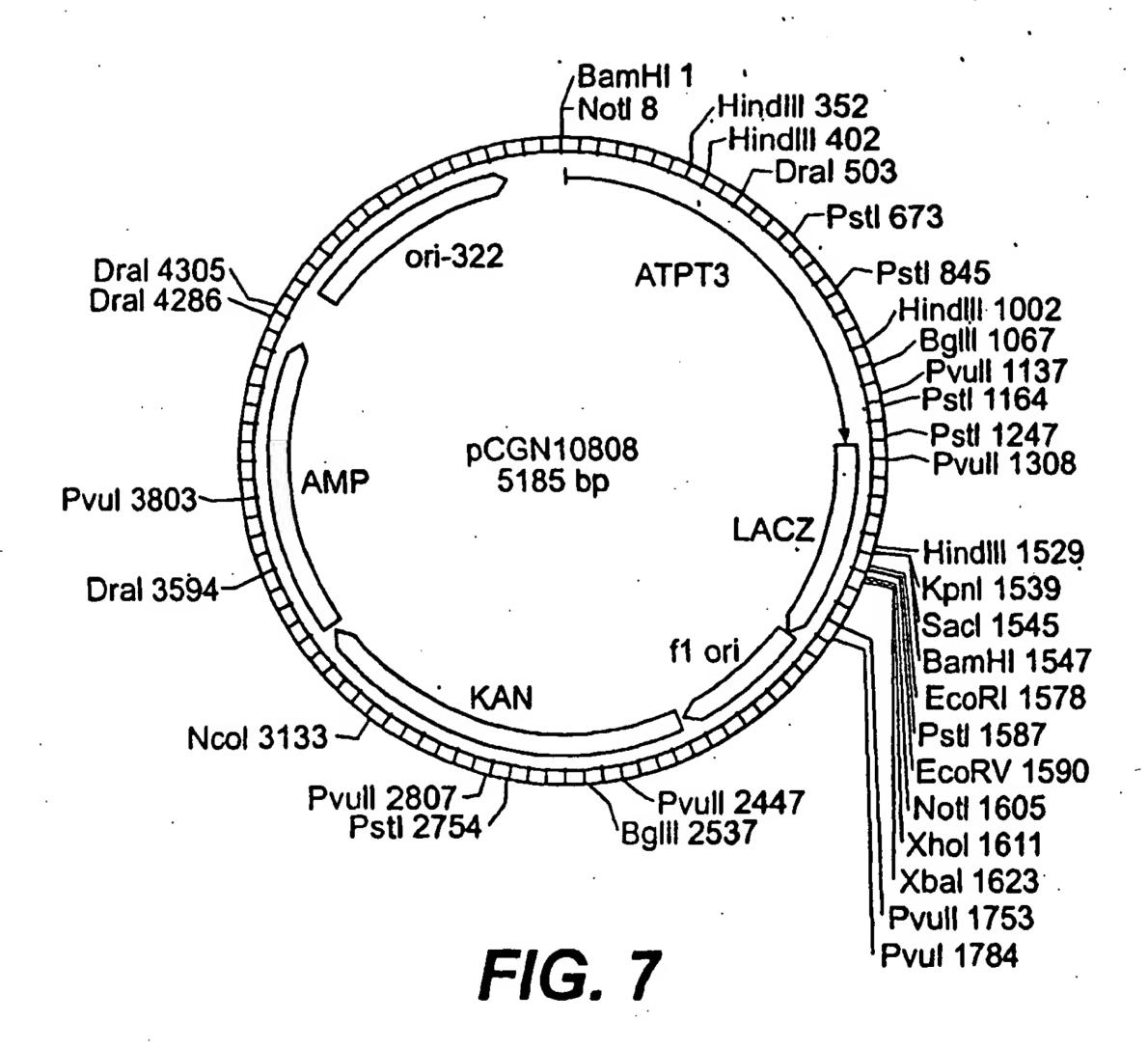
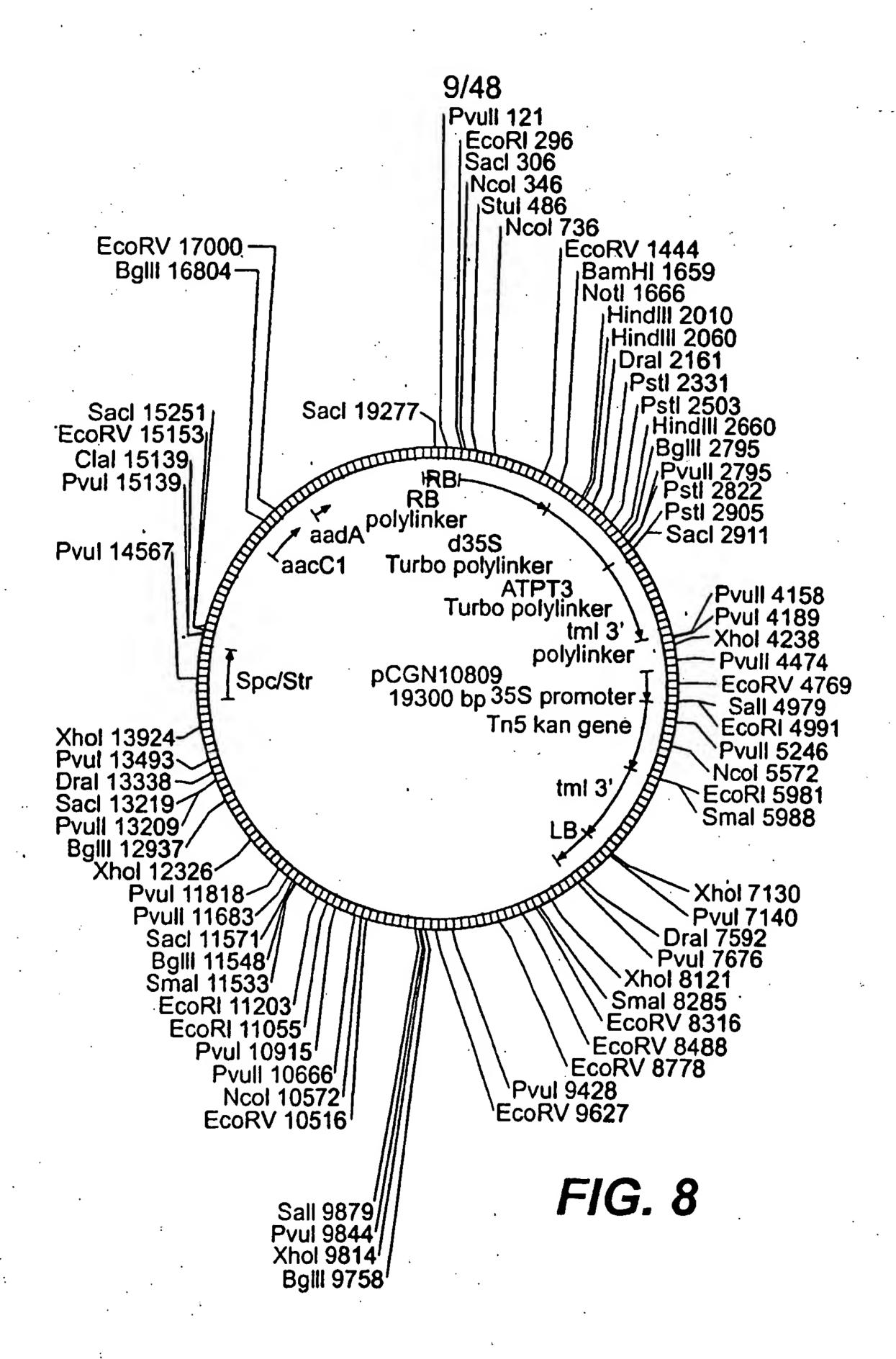
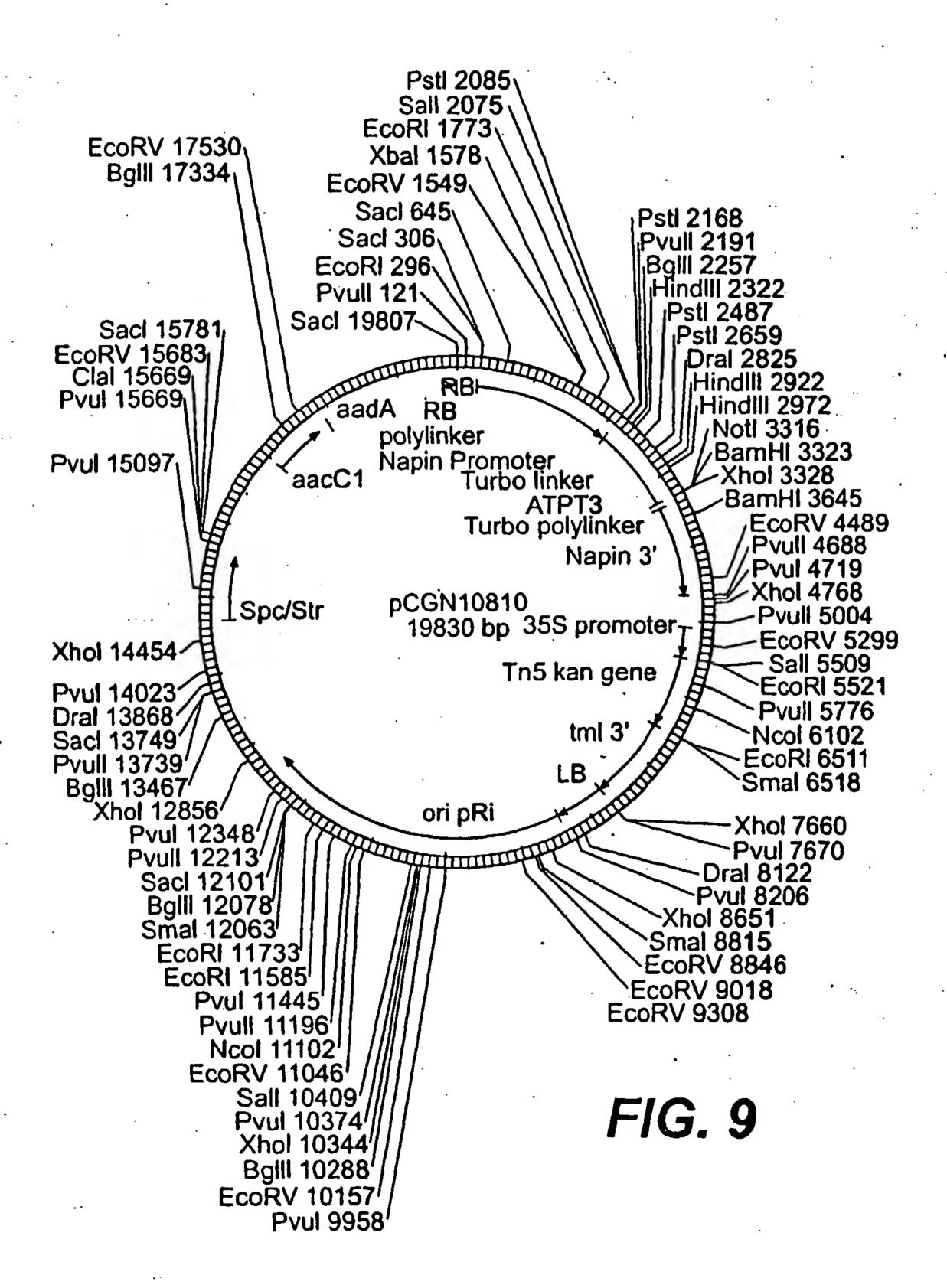


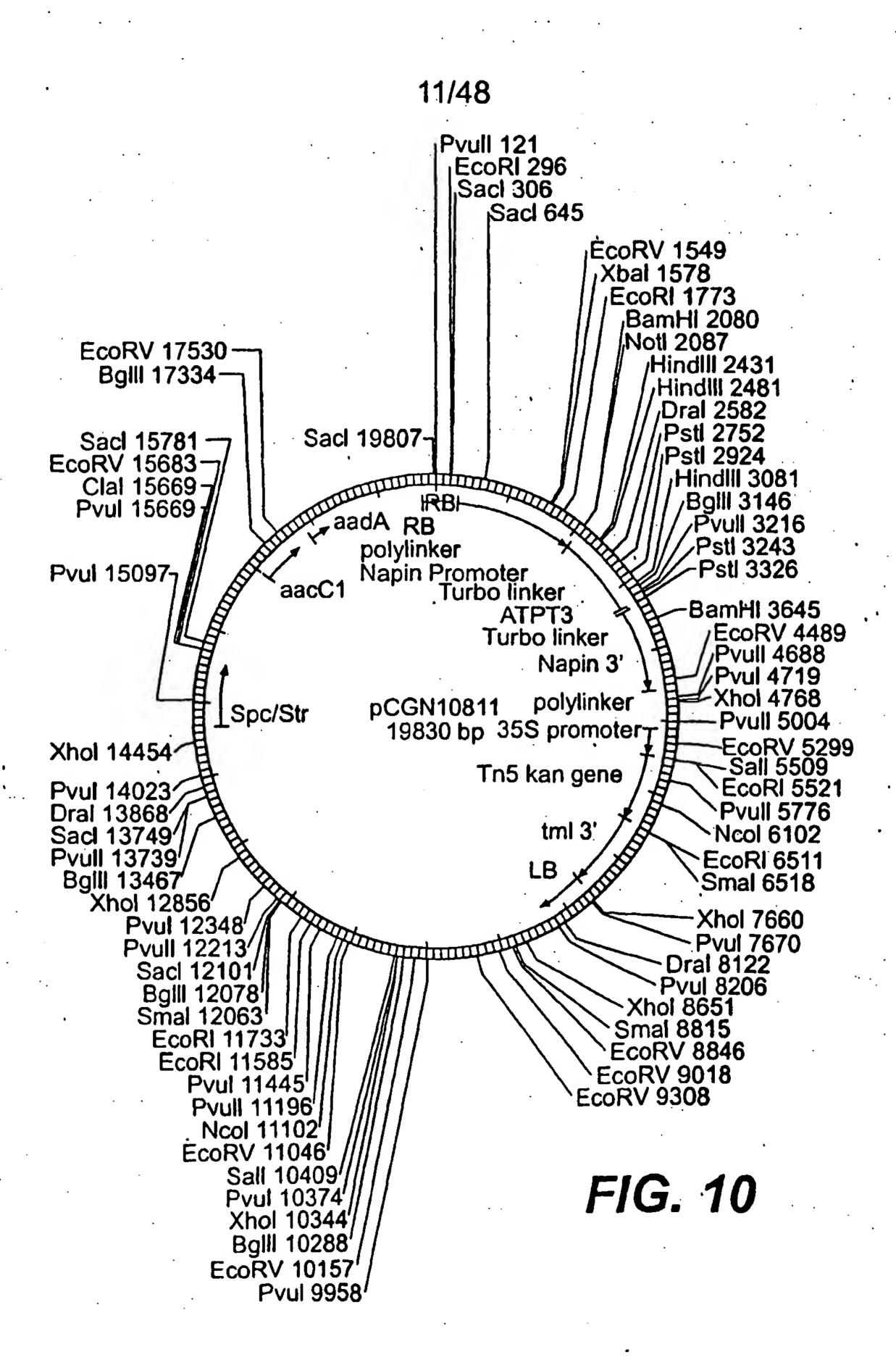
FIG. 6





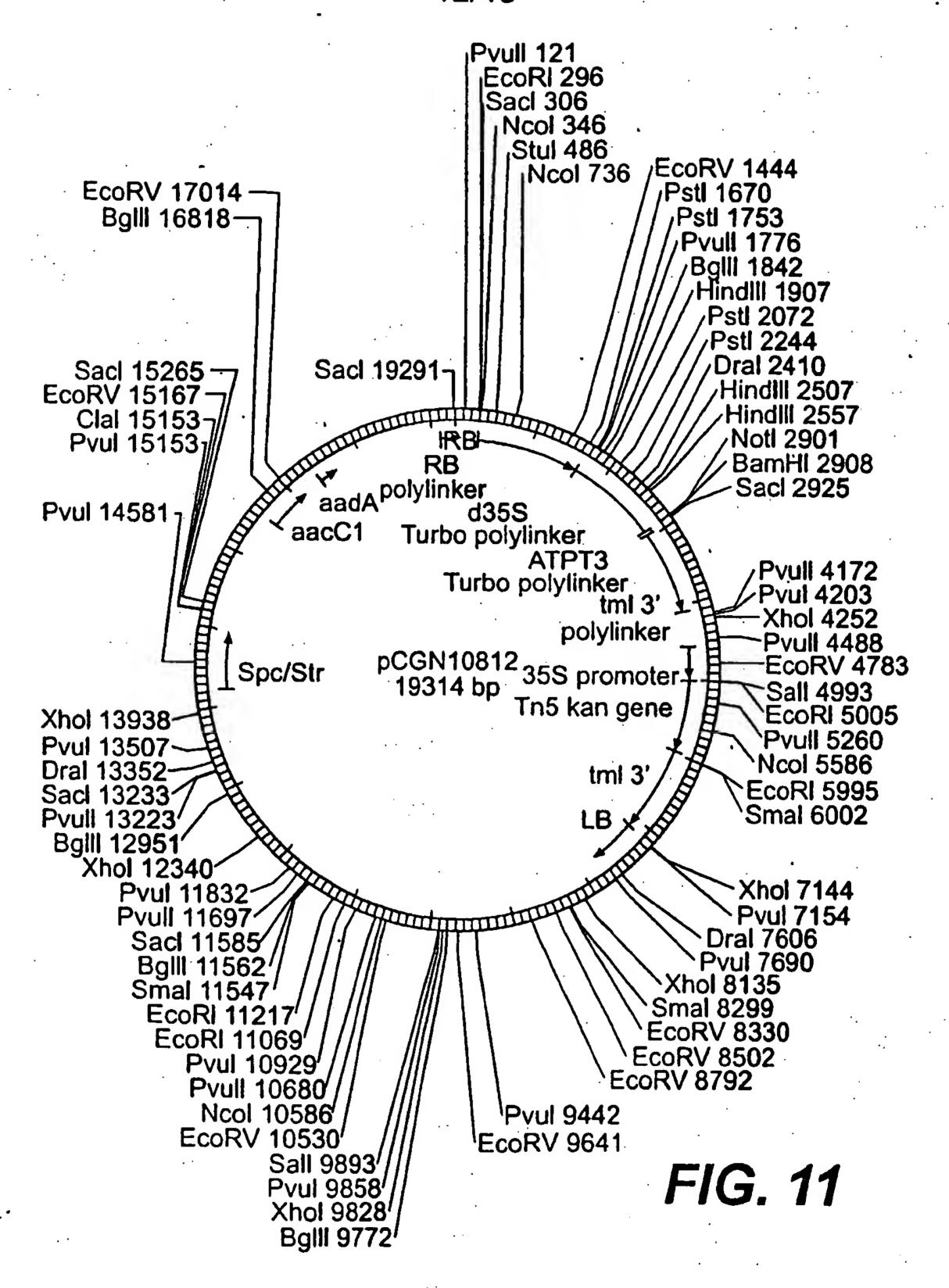
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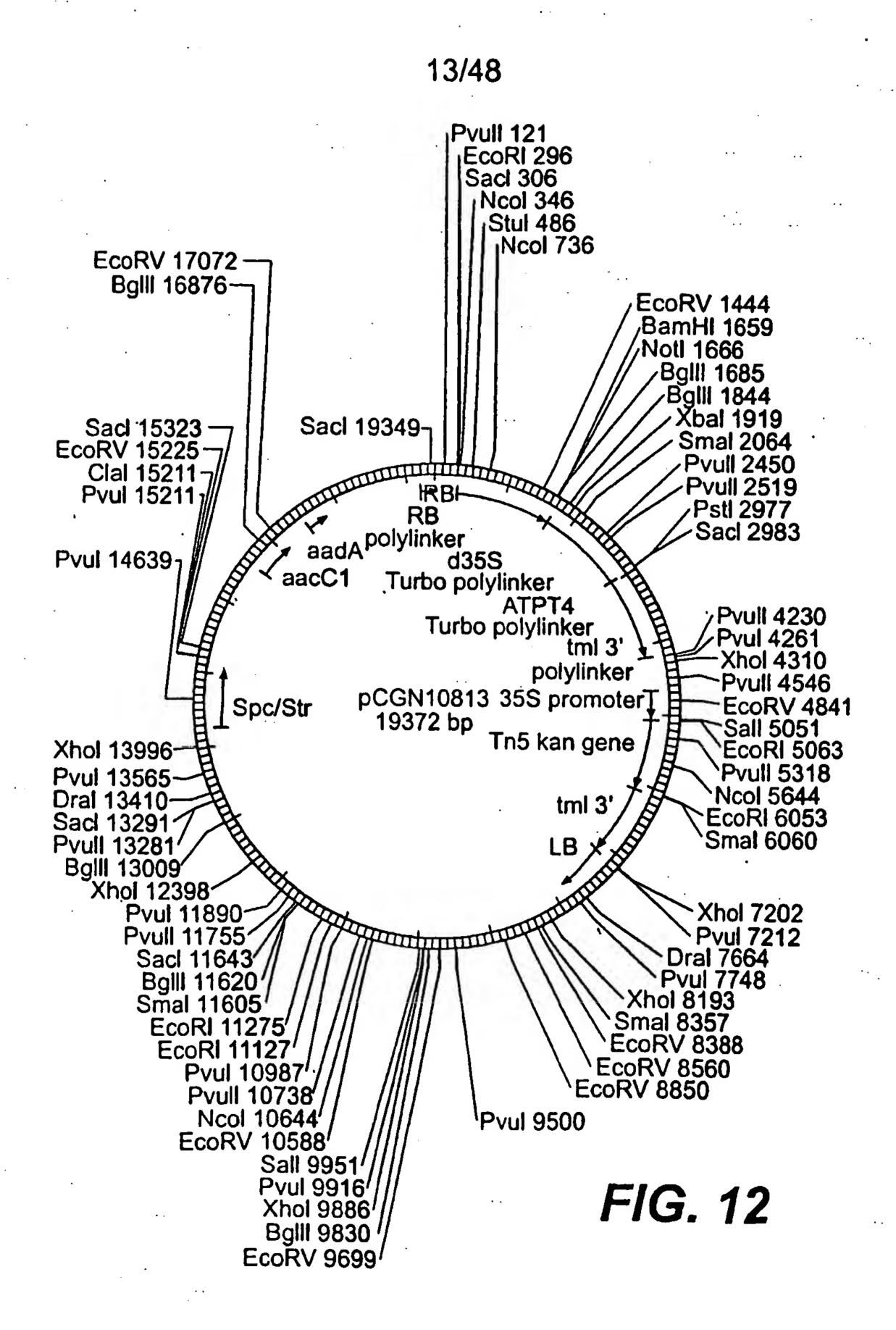




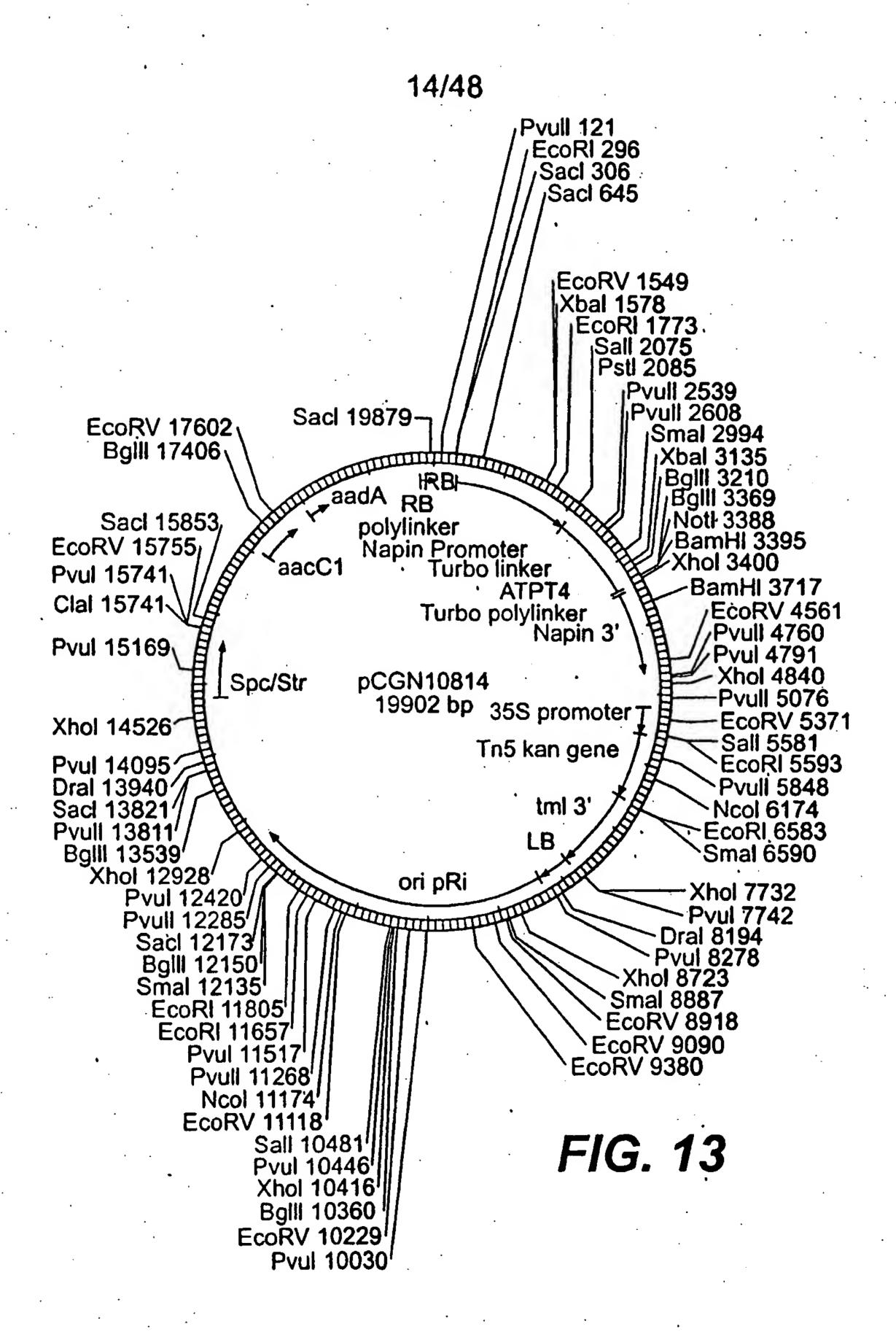
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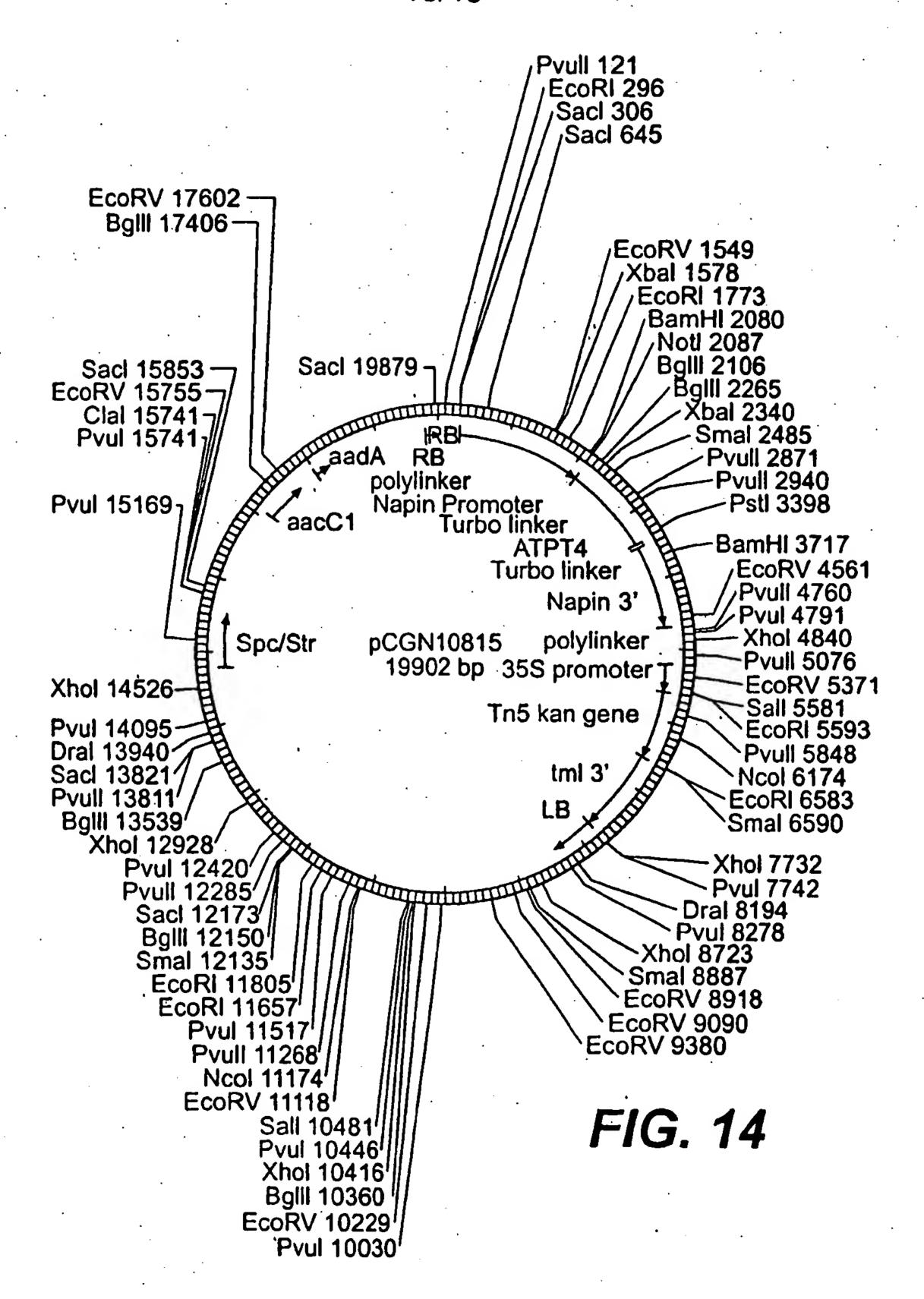




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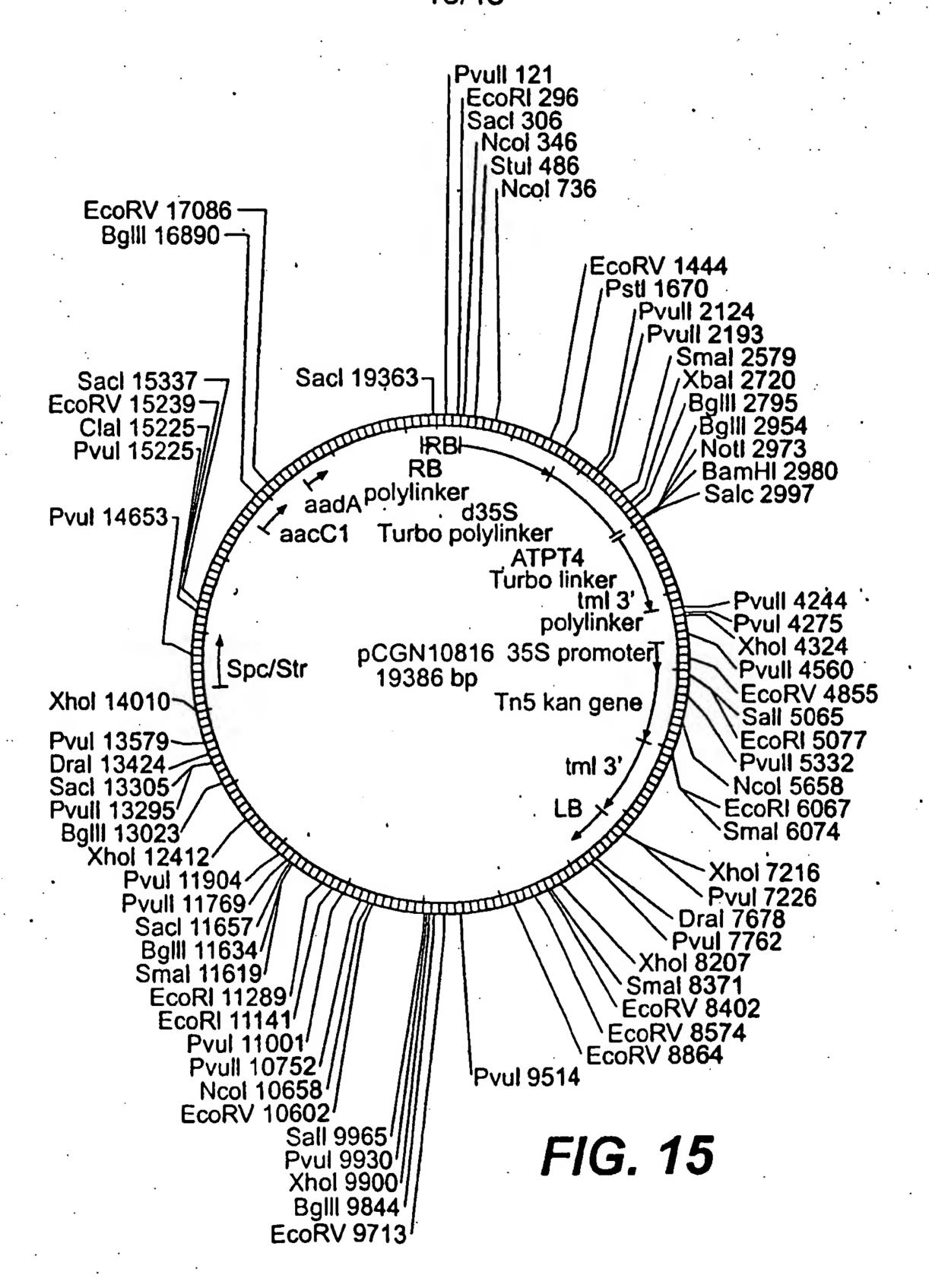


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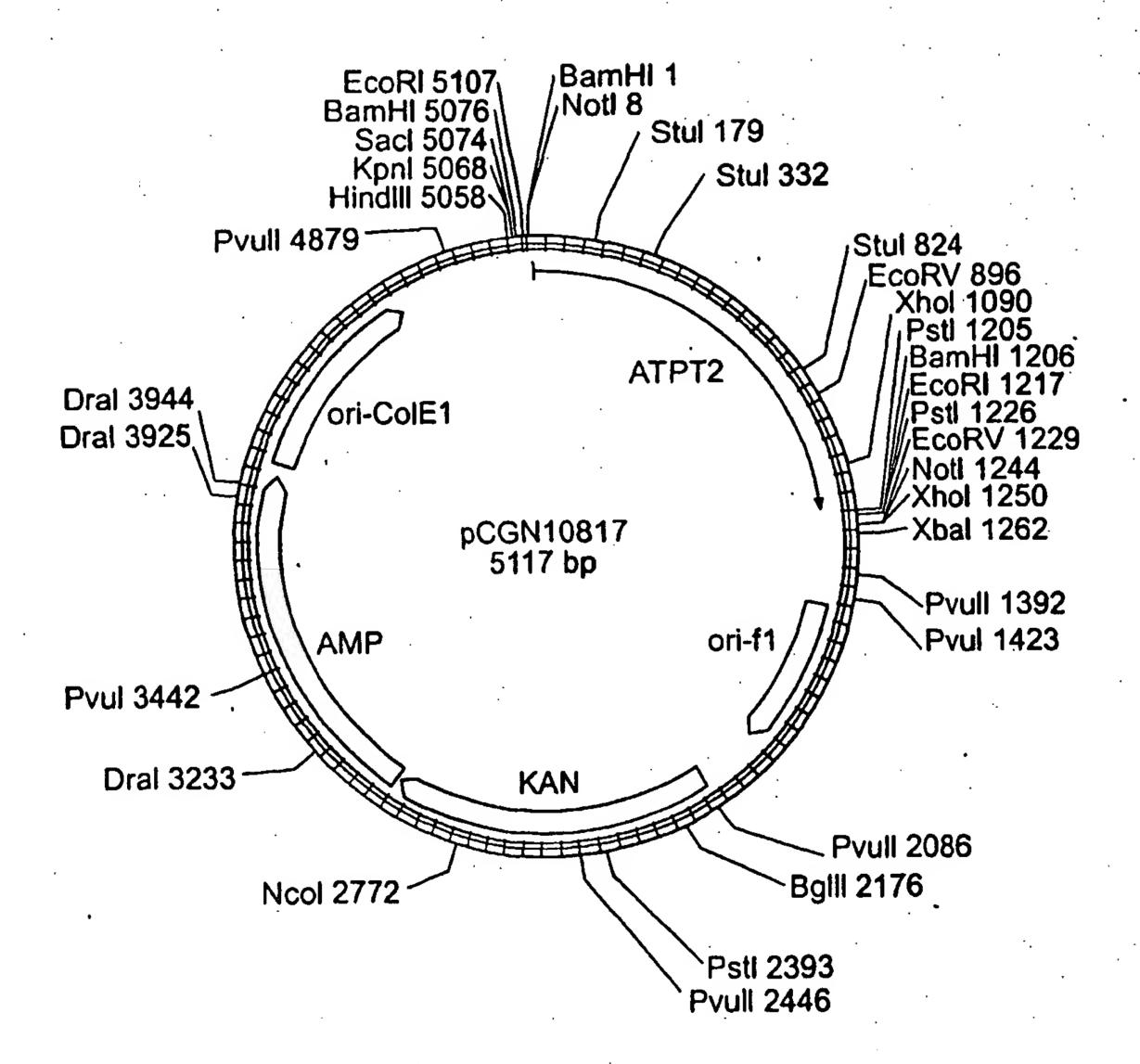
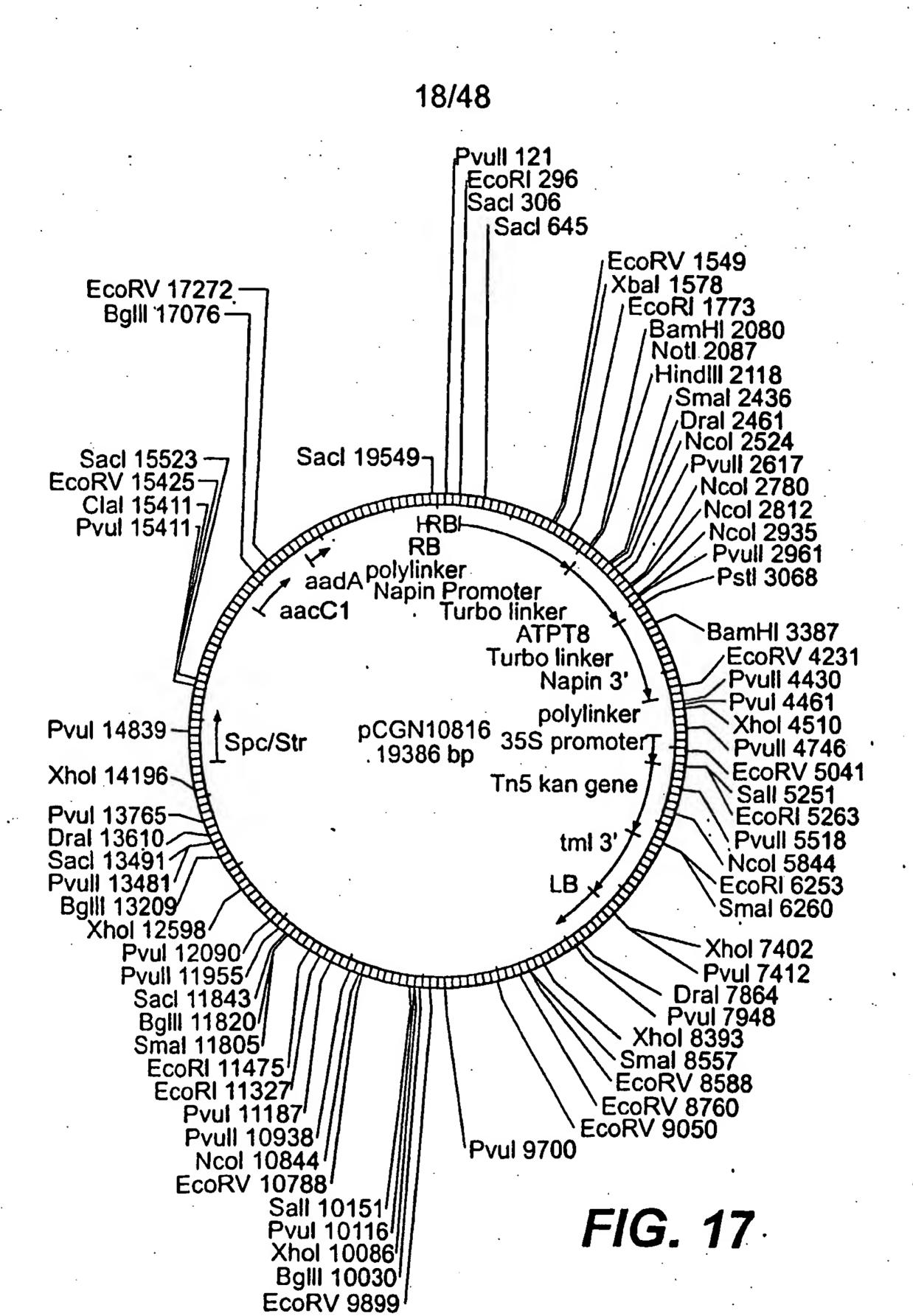


FIG. 16



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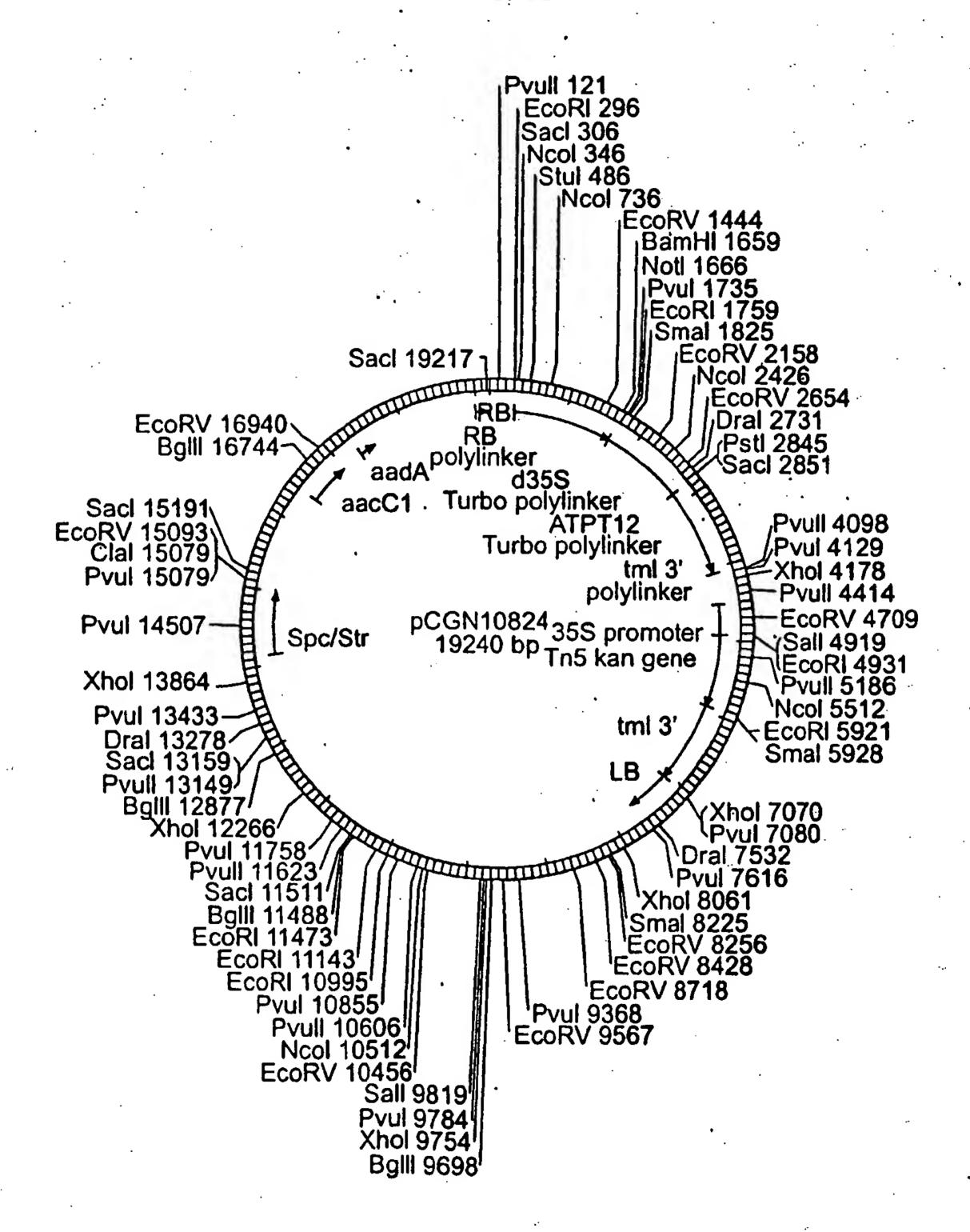


FIG. 18

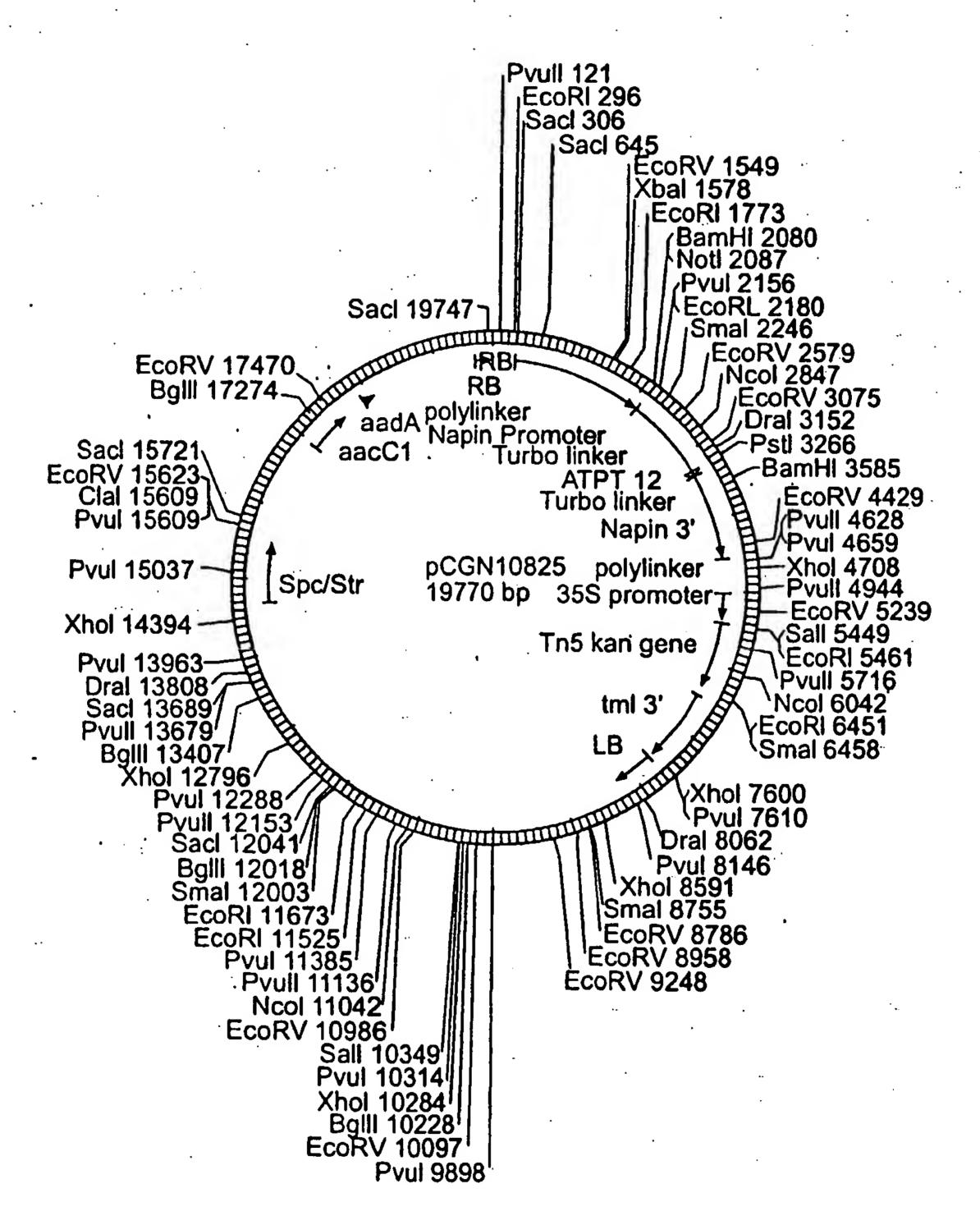


FIG. 19

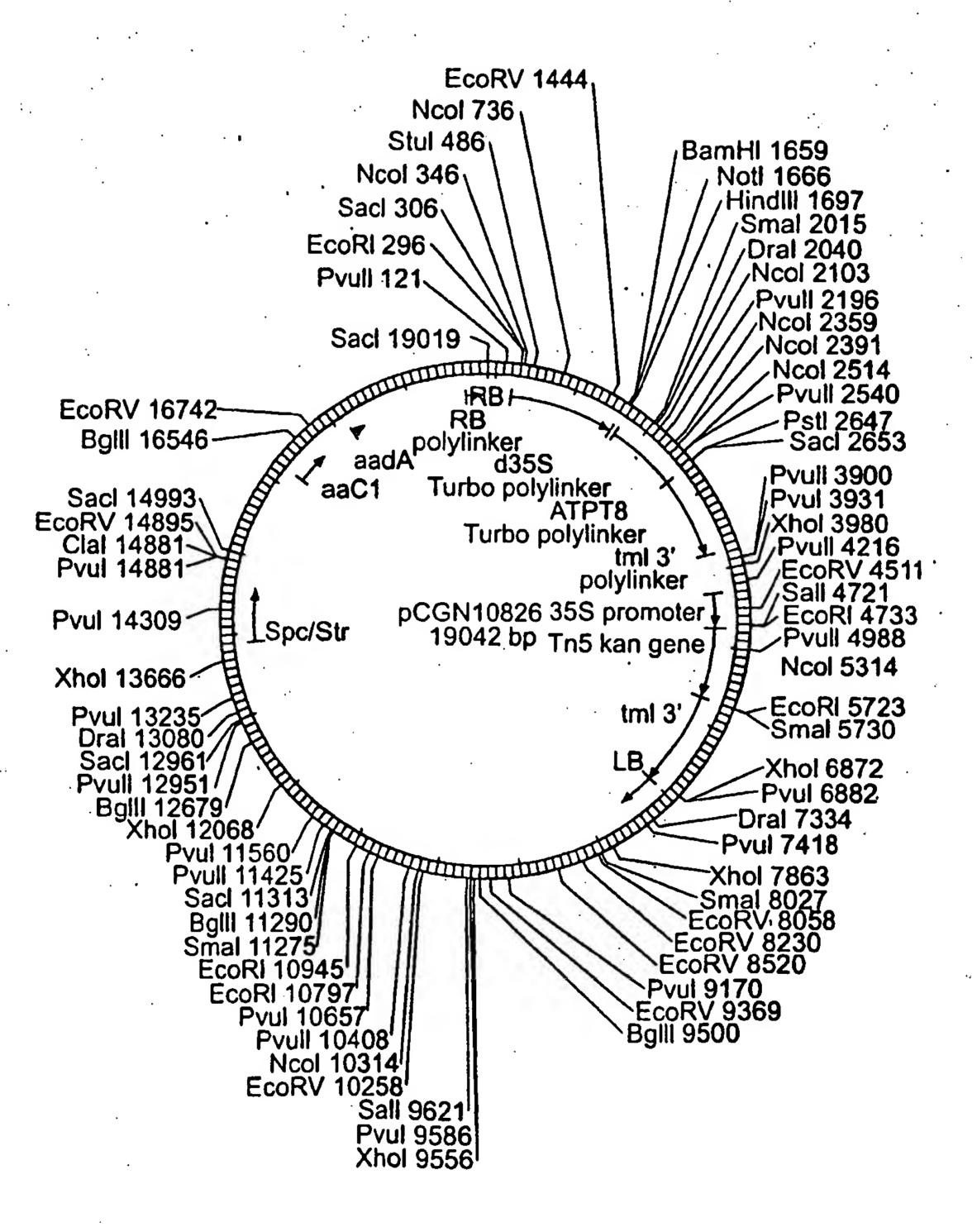
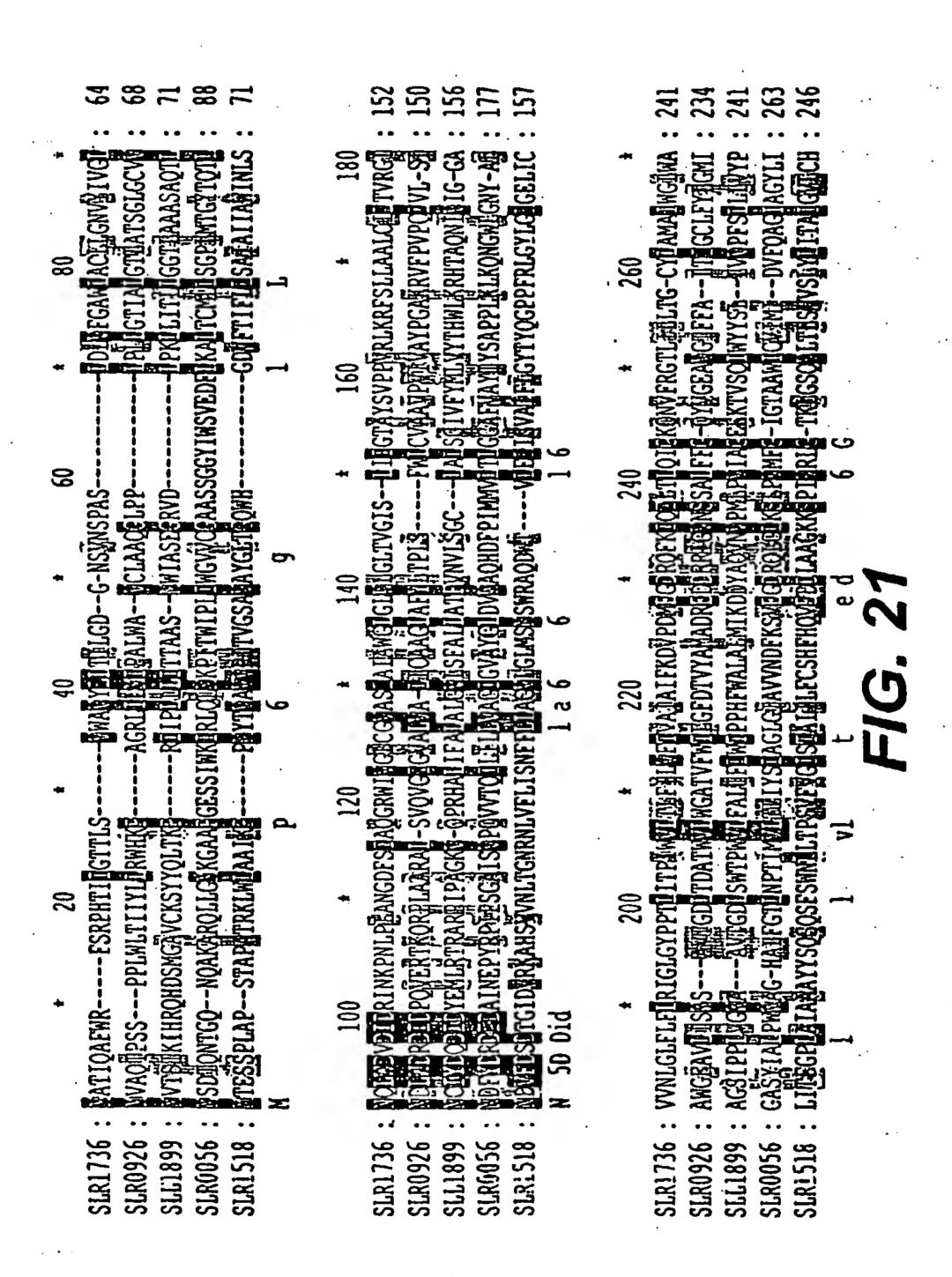


FIG. 20



SKR1736 : AÄPLNTAÄTTÄRSHÄCALAM WARSRDVHLESKTERASFYOR INKLERTLYPTAM WLPNFSNTIF---- 308
SLR0926 : LÄLNPRYNTSIAN AMARKEN LOLSAPTE EPKLYGO-INGONVIIGENI LARE LIGNRI---- 292
SLL1899 : LHOLGÄLÄTAN AMARKEN LARE LÄKESLÄRYLMITCLAM VIDSÄPVTHOLVARM CTLLLG 316
SLR056 : YÄHOONYATERI LILE PRATERNI LENDYKYO-ASAOPFILVERMATCHARGI ---- 324
SLR1518 : QAPMOTILIERASI PWAVEN RHVGOYHDONE EQVSNCKETAVNIHERISGAM AARVONAGIG---- 307

FIG. 21 (CONT.)

40 80 LHSLSEIRVIRCOSSKVVARPKFRNNIVRPDGQGSSLLLYPKHKSRFRVNATAGQ 80 SLSNPVTTHYTNPFTKCYPSWNDNYOVWSKGRELHOEKFFGVGWNYRLICGMSSS 89	•• •• ••	RRRSGFSTLIYESPGRREVVRAAETDT 6	MVLA	* 160 * 1 "GGTVLSTILSVSFLÄVEKVSDISPLÄFTGÄLE: 140 "GGTTLSMAVYLTTILGDÄN-SVNSPASÄDLÄFG: 49 "ILAMPCHÄSIALMADPÄSLPSFKYMALFGC: 170 "ILAMPCHÄSTGYILGTÄNAISFPGÄGTÄLL: 56 SMLVVATSGTGYILGTÄNAISFPGÄGTÄLG: 60 GLTKPVTÄPPLVMGVVCGAASÄGRI-WTPETÄAKSÄLC: 139 GLTKPVTÄPPLVMGVVCGAASÄGGYI-WSVEDFÄKAÄTC: 73 MATALNÄRVPEALIGESTDIVTSEÄRVRQR: 63
LHSLSEIRVLRCDSSKVVARPKFRNNLVRPDGQGSSLLLYPKHKSRFRVNATAGQ	PSWNDNYQVWSKGKELHQEKFFGVGWNYKLICGMSSS PVSTESTAKLGITGVRSDANRVFATA	RRRSGFSTLIYESPGRREVVRAAETOT	MVLA	160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 * 160 *
* 40 * 40 *	*** **********************************			PEAFDSNSKQKSFRDSDDAFYRFSRPHTE SSVLEGKPKKDDKEKSDGVVVKKASMDLYLPEEVRGYAKLARLDKPIGTWMVAQTPSSPPLMITITYLLRWHKPAGRI TAAATATATATGEISSRVAALAGIGHHYARCYWELSKAKI TKIHRQHDSMGAVCKSYYQLTKP
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FIG. 22

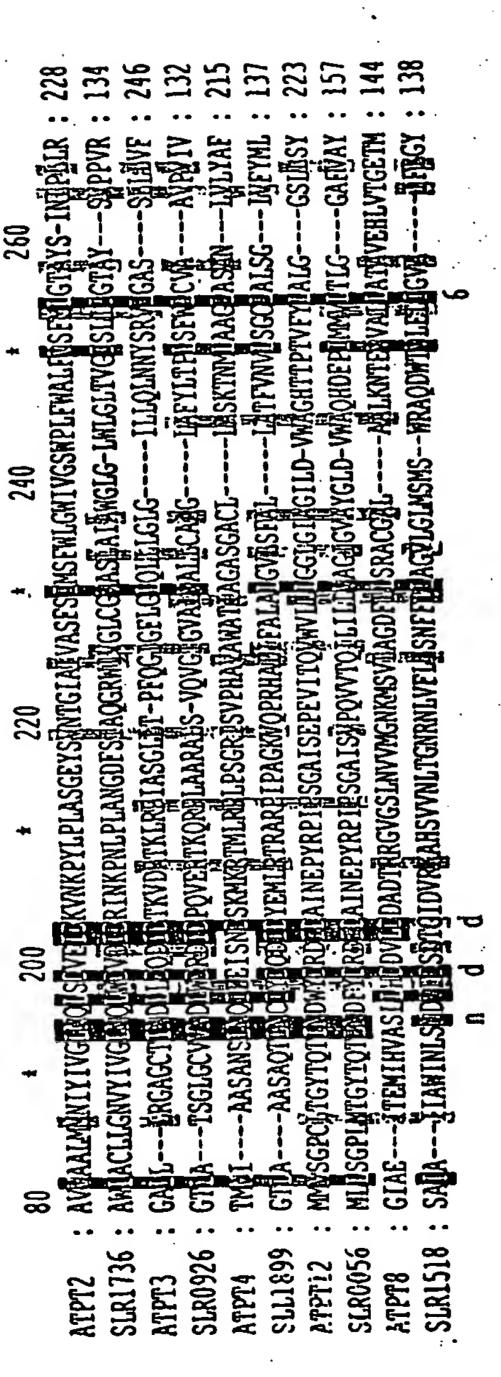


FIG. 22 (CONT. -1)

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                                                                                       PHEMALAHLCRNDYA
                                                                                                                                 GIAEVNDFKSV
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ŁKWICYGABDITQLSVAGYLJBASGKPYYALAJIVALJB--BPOJBFQFKYFLKDPVKYDJK-
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                VERGTÜTLÜTGCYLÄMAÄMGIMAAMPLNTAFÜÜÜSHLCÜLAGBWRSRDVHLESKTEÄA
KLWÜTGEGTAS IGFÜALSGESADLGWOYYASÜAAASGOÜGWOGGTADLSSGADCS---
GEAÜGGEFALTIGCÜFYÜGMÄLMLNPLYWLSEAÜAÄ--VGWÜGYIQLSAPTPEP-KÄY
GKRÄAAVAÜRNCFYNIPÜGFÄAYDWGLTSSWECÄESTLÄTLABAATAFSFYRDRTMHKA
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                                                                   JWGATVI
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                                                                                         ATPT4
                                              ATPT3
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  ATP72
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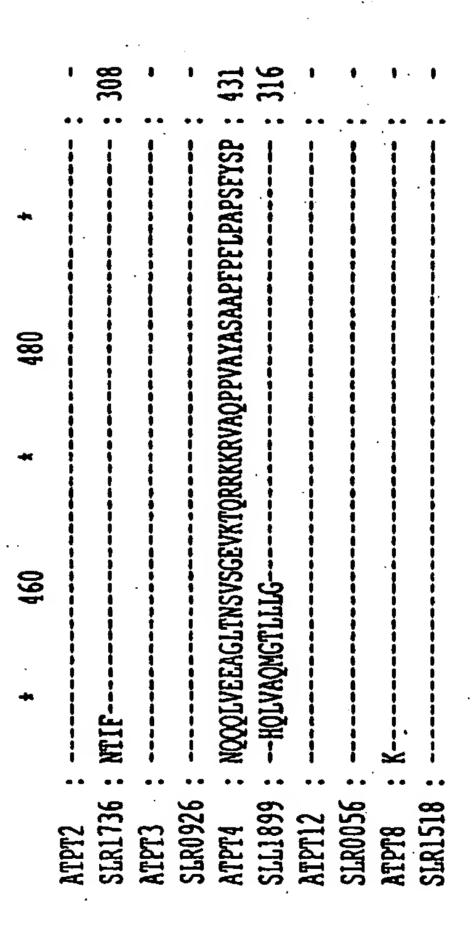


FIG. 22 (CONT. -3)

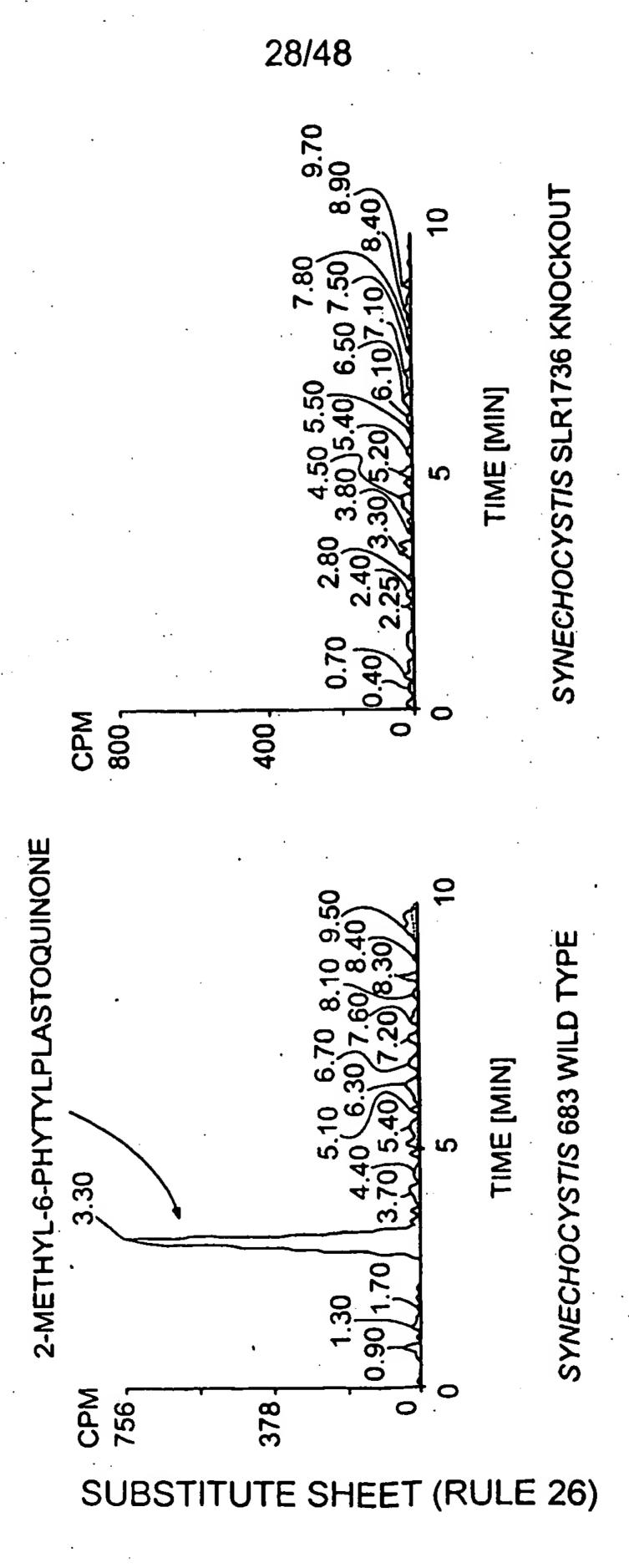
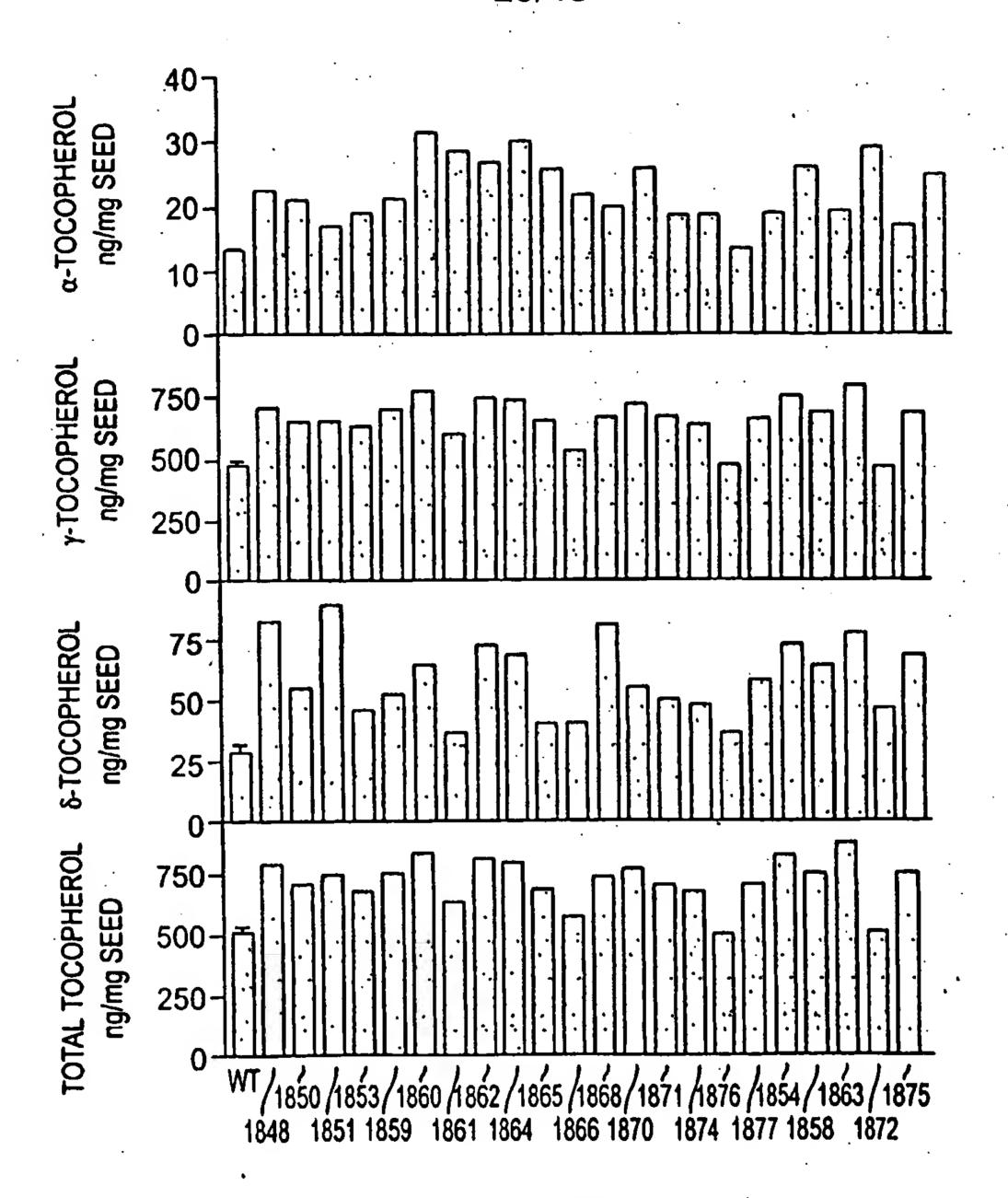
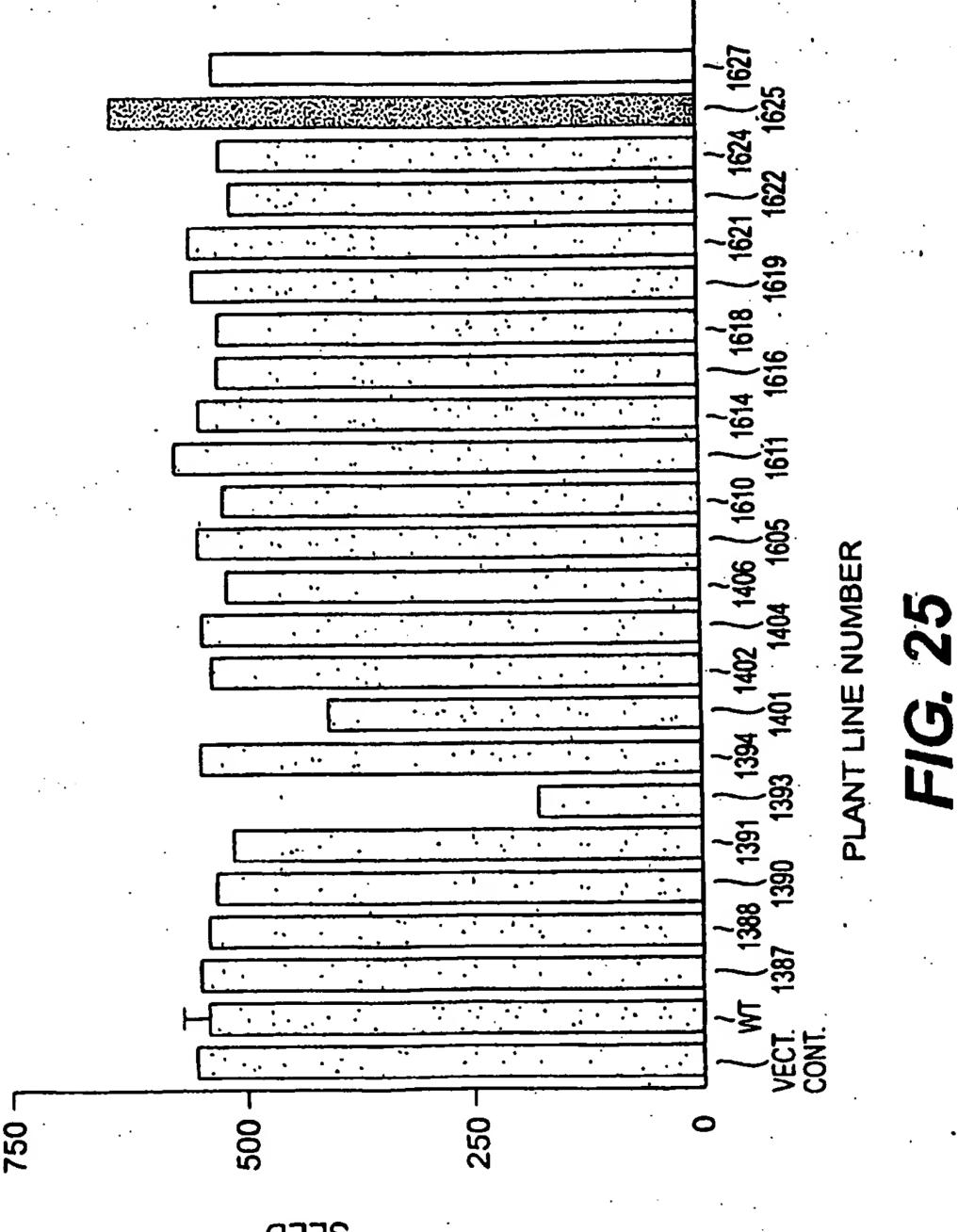


FIG. 23

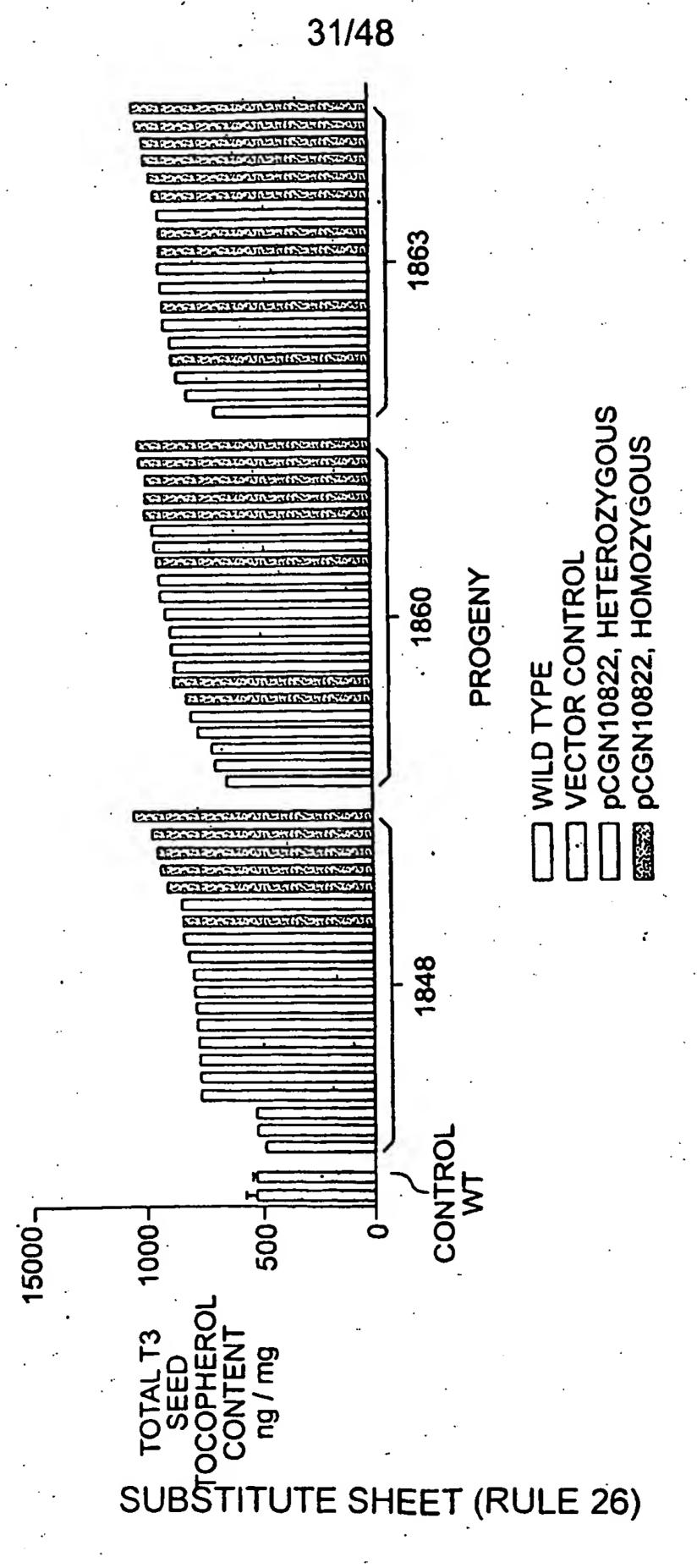


PLANT LINE NUMBER

FIG. 24

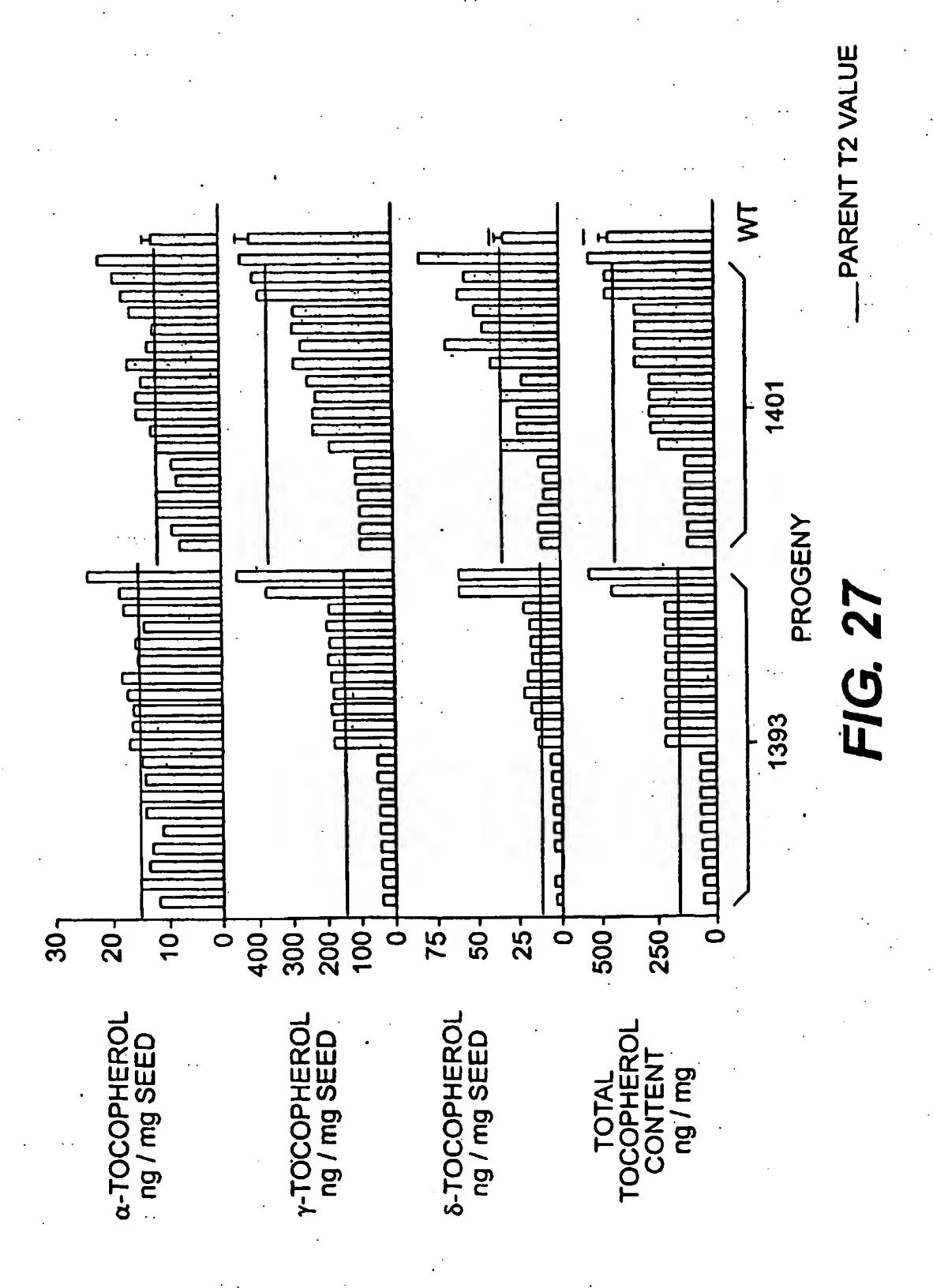


ng TOTAL TOCOPHEROL/mg

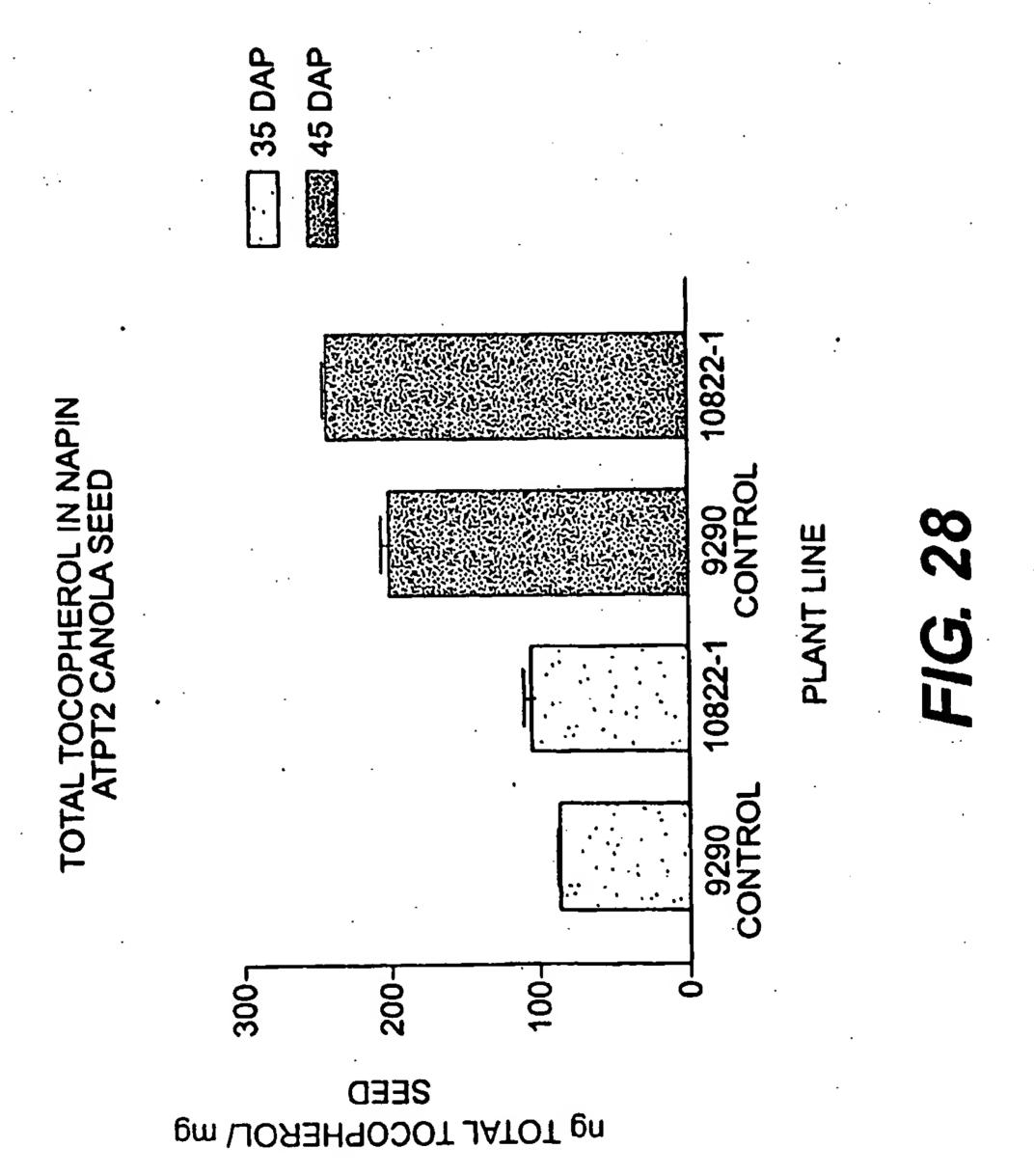


F/G. 26

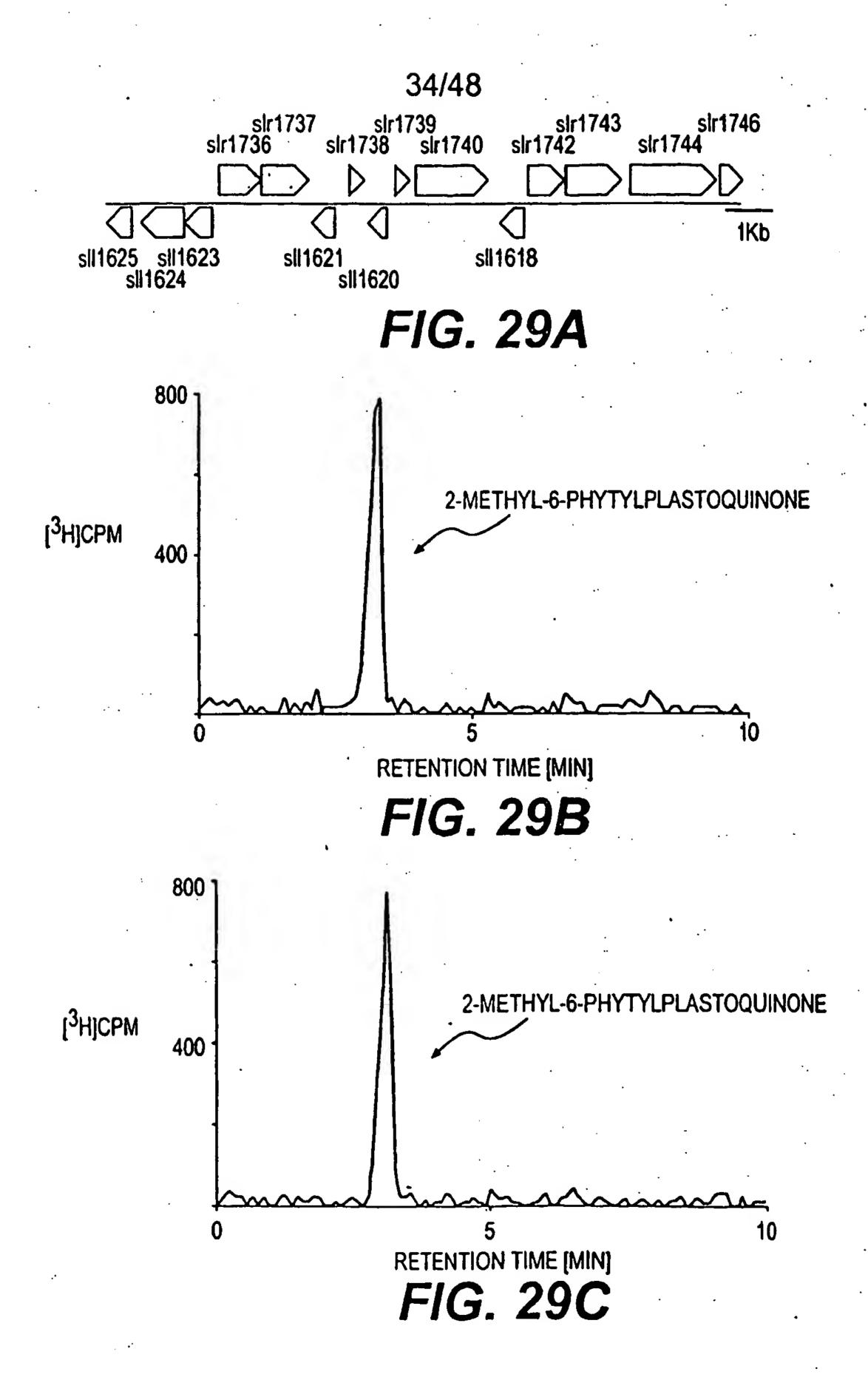
32/48



SUBSTITUTE SHEET (RULE 26)

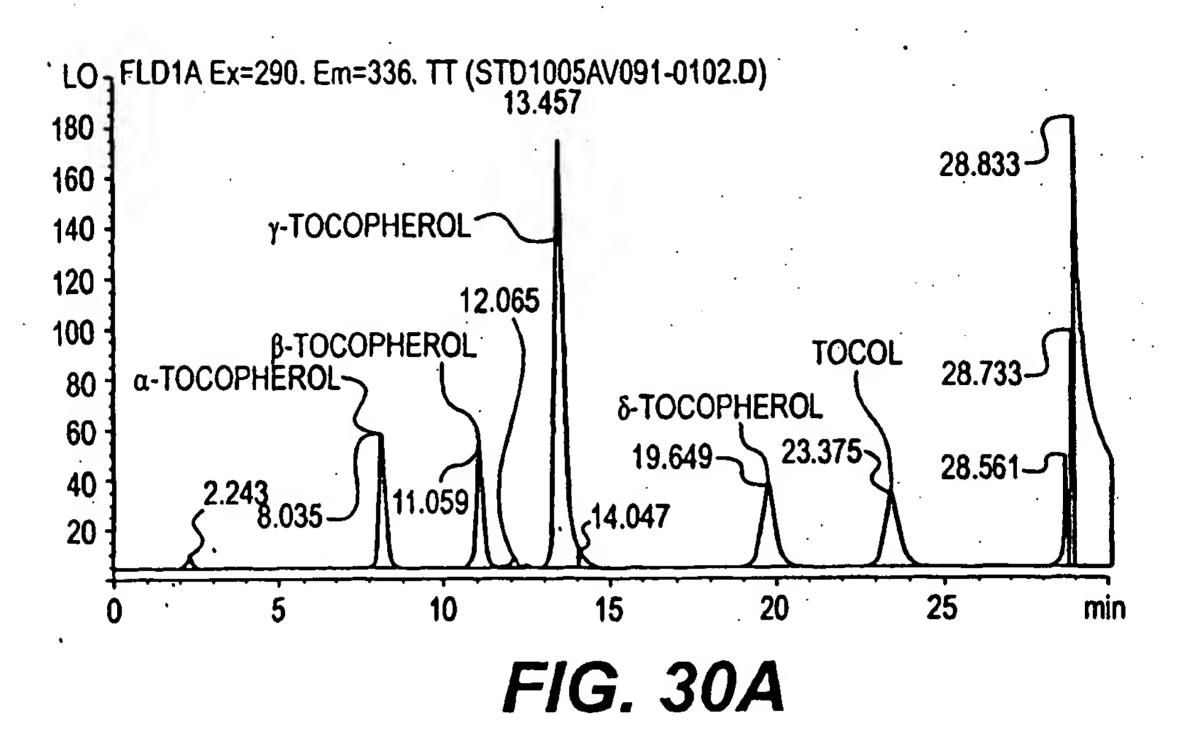


SUBSTITUTE SHEET (RULE 26)



SUBSTITUTE SHEET (RULE 26)

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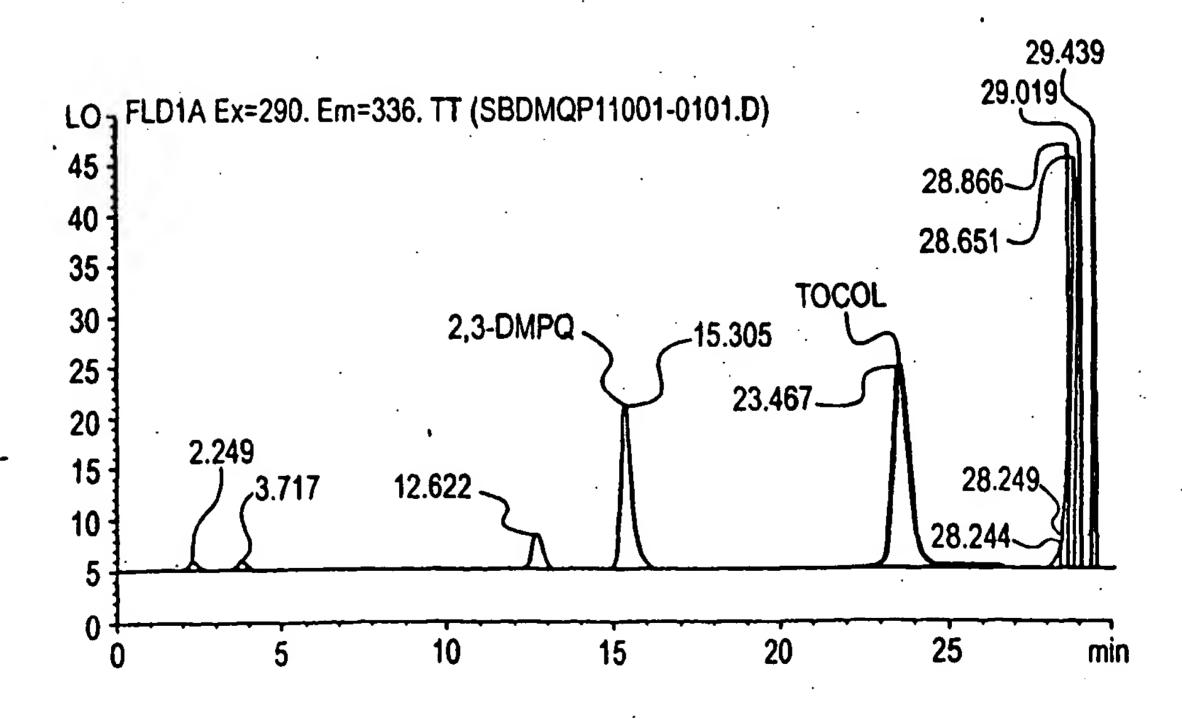
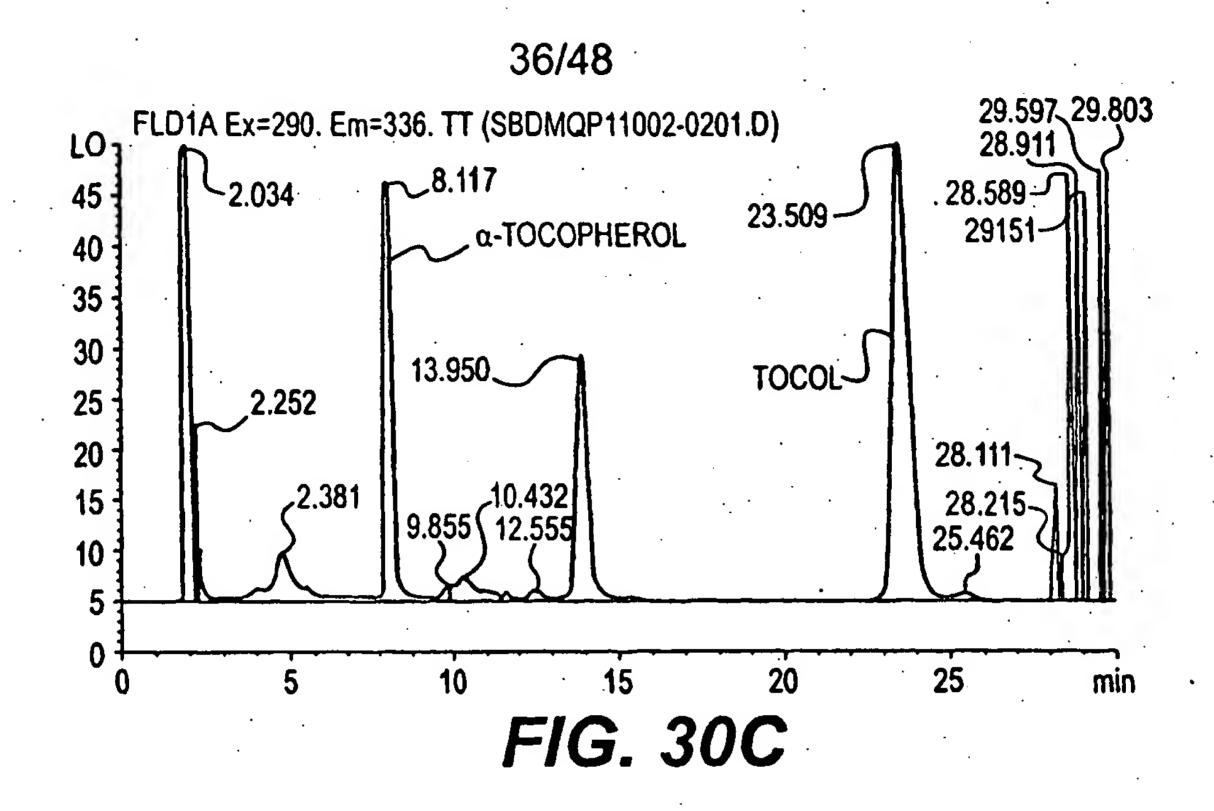
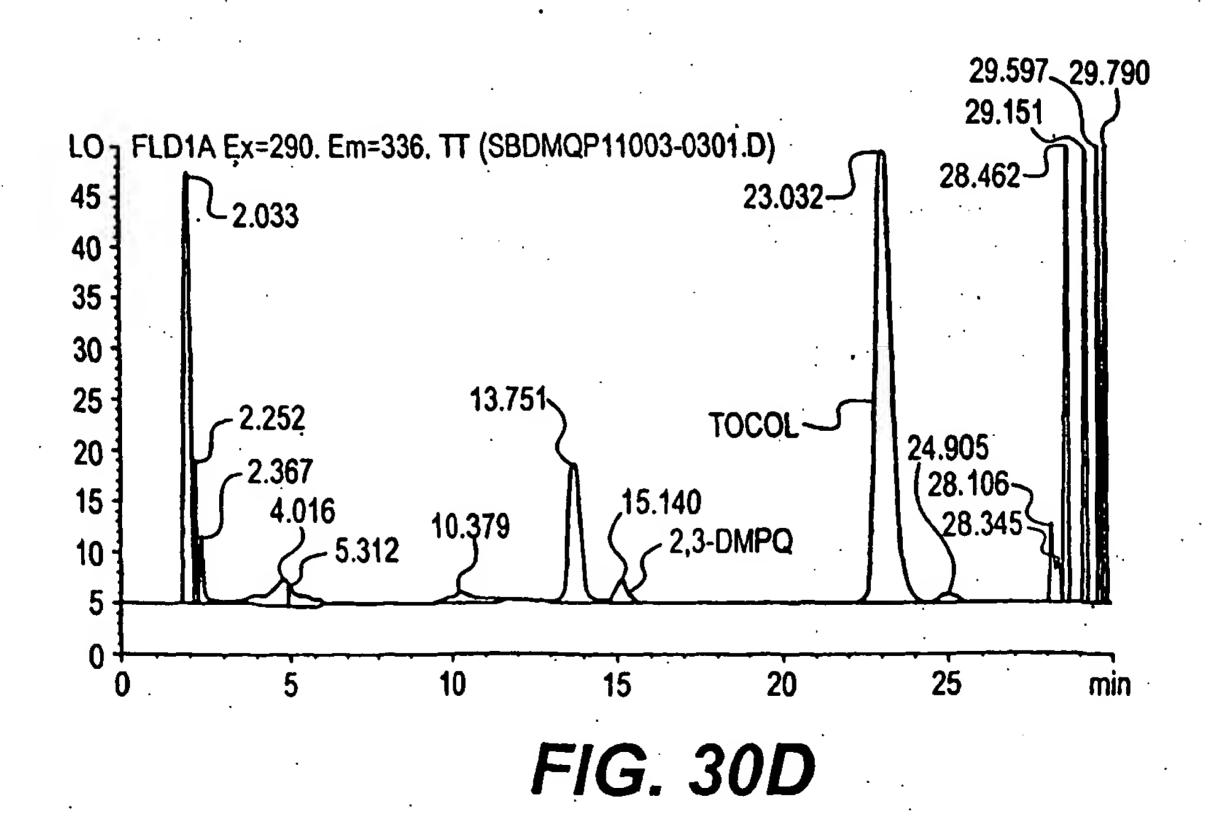


FIG. 30B





SUBSTITUTE SHEET (RULE 26)

Query Sequence: F4D11

: F4Dll AL022537
Database: PIR_T04448.atcea.list.fasta

Database: PIR_T04448

Plus (+) denotes forward strand, and minus (-) reverse strand. Asterisks (*) denote bases not shown on pair wise alignmnts.

Alignment 1

Query- genomic	12194	CACACGTTCTCGTCCTTTTCTTCCTCTCTCGCATTCTTCACAGAGTTTGTCACCACCA	
ATCEA4C371+	1	C	es
MET			irs
Query-	12134	ACACCARACA CATALCACATECATTITICATITITICATITITICATITATICATION AT AT A T GENERAL AT A GARACTER AT A T GENERAL AT A GARACTER AT A T GENERAL AT A	
ATCEA4C371+	2	ACCCCAAACATCACAATTTCACATTCTTTTGCATATTTCTTCTTCTTCTTCCATTATGGA	
Query-	12075	GATACGGAGCTTGATTGTTCTATGAACCCTAATTTATCTTCCTTTGAGCTCTCTCGCCC	
ATCEA4C371+	62	GATACGGAGCTTGATTGTTTCTATGAACCCTAATTTATCTTCCTTTGAGCTCTCTCGCCC	
Query-	12015	TGTATCTCCTCTCACTCGCTCACTAGTTCCGTTCCGATCGACTAAACTAGTTCCCCGCTC	
ATCEA4C371+	122	TGTATCTCCTCTCACTCGCTCACTAGTTCCGTTCCGATCGACTAAACTAGTTCCCCGCTC	
Query-	11955	CATTTCTAGGGTTTCGESTICE ATCTCCACCCGAATAGTGAAACTGACAAGATCTCCGT	•
ATCEA4C371+	182	CATTTCTAGGGTTTCGGCGTCGATCTCCACCCCGAATAGTGAAACTGACAAGATCTCCGT	•
Query-	11895	TAAACCTGTTTACGTCCCGACGTCTCCCAATCGCGAACTCCGGACTEGTCACAGTGGGTA	
ATCEA4C371+	242	TAAACCTGTTTACGTCCCGACGTCTCCCAATCGCGAACTCCGGACT <u>GGTGAGAGTGG</u>	
here		Synecho seq aligns fi	CON
Query-	11835	AATTGATCCATTCCATTCCTCTTCTCTTGTTTGTTTATTAAGCTCCAATTTCAG	
ATCEA4C371+	299		

FIG. 31

	•	~~	60	рр	rem	ove	d ~	~~														
Query-	11715	***	* • • •	***	: * * *	* * *	* * *	; ***	***		+ + 1	; • * * :	* * * *	***	: :	* * *	***	; ***	***	* * *	TTTC	;
ATCEA4C371+	299												:	- * -								•
PIR:T04448	1																					
Query-	11655	GTG	GCT	CAC	: CAT'	TCG	ACG	: ACT	'ACT	TTI	: GAJ	: \TT'	: TGA(STTI	: TTG	AAA	.AAT	: 'GC	AAT	TTA	ACA1	
ATCEA4C371+	299					- - -				•									,			•
PIR:T04448	1									•=-			ara	ab s	equ	enc	-:: M e w	Q hid	F Ch	::: N is	I I	rrect
Query	11595	CAG	AGA	.GTT	: ? TT'	TTT	TTT	; ATG	GTT	· ·GAT	:)AA'	: CTT/	ATT(STTT	: 'AAC	TTT	TGA	: AA <i>l</i>	\AT(GCA	· :	1
ATCEA4C371+	299																				-111	
PIR:T04448	6	:::	: : : E	::: F	::: F	::: F		::: W	::: L	::: I	T		C			_	::: E	'		::: : R	:::: Y	•
Query-	11535	CCA	TTT	CGA	: TGG			: TCG	•			: rcg/	AGGO		: GTA	TTT	CAG	: GG1	rtt(CCA	: TCCC	,
ATCEA4C371+	302																				TCCC	
PIR:T04448	26	::: H	::: F	::: D		-					-		G					V	::: \$::: I	:::: P	
Query-	11475	AGA	Gaa	GAG	: GGA	GAG	TTT	: TTG	TTT	TAT	rgt/	: \TT(CTG	rgga	: \GAA	TCC	TGC	: AT	rtc	GGC	AGAG	,
ATCEA4C371+	362	AGA	III Gaa	GAG	GGA	GAG	TTT	III TTG	III TTT	III CAT	IGT/		CTG	rgga	III IGAA	TCC	TGC	AT:	PTC	FII GGC	AGAG	;
PIR:T04448	46	E	K	R	E	: : : S	F	C													: : : : S	
Query-	11415				ATT	GGA	AGT	'GGC	TCI	'ATA	\TG(GAC		SATI	CAC	TGG	TGT					
ATCEA4C371+	422						•	•					- • •	• • •	• • •		• • •	• •			 AGAT	
P1R:T04448	. 66	L	\$::: P	L	3	: : : V	::: A	::: L	Y	G	::: P	R	F	" "	G	::: V	G	: : : A	Q	:::: I	

FIG. 31 (CONT-1)

Query-	11355 TCTTGGCGCTAATGATAAATATTTATGCCAATACGAACAAGACTCTCACAATTTCTGGGG
ATCEA4C371+	482 TCTTGGCGCTAATGATAAATATTTATGCCAATACGAACAAGACTCTCACAATTTC
PIR:T04448	86 L G A N D K Y L C Q Y E Q D S H N F W G
ATCEA4C371+	Exon 11538 11301 Confidence: 100 100
Query-	11295 AGGTAACTCCTTGACCCTTAAAATGCTGTGTCATGACAATAAGAAATCATATCTGAGTCT
ATCEA4C371+	537
PIR:T04448 PIR:T04448	106 D Exon 11609 11294 Confidence: 100 100
Query-	11235 TTTCTCTACTTCTAGTACTAATGTTCGTTATTGTTGTTAAAGATCTAAGTCTTATCTGAA
PIR:T04448	107
Query-	11175 TTTTGTTACATTTTGGTTCTGGTGCTTTCTCAACATGAATTTGTATATATGACTTTAAAG
PIR:T04448	107
Query-	11115 ATTGCTTACCTAAAGTTTTTACTCATGCATAGATCGACATGAGCTAGTTTTGGGGAATAC
PIR: T04448	107 RHELVLGNT
Query-	11055 TTTTAGTGCTGTGCCAGGCGCAAAGGCTCCAAACAAGGAGGTTCCACCAGAGGTTCTCAC
PIR:T04448	116 F S A V P G A K A P N K E V P P E
PIR:T04448	Exon 11083 11004 Confidence: 96 100
Query-	10995 TCCTCCCTTGTTGGTTACTTTGTTATCTGTTAAATAGTTTTCCAATTGTATCCGGATAGT
PIR:T04448	133
Query-	10935 GTTCTACTTCTCCTTGTAGAAAATCTCAAGTTTTTGTTACTCTTGCTATTCTCTTGGATG
PIR:T04448	133

FIG. 31 (CONT-2)

				:		•	:	•		:		•	:				:	•		:
Query-	10875	TTGAT'	TTG	raa/	AGC	TGT	CGTT	TTA	TTG:	rag(AA1	TT	AAC	AGA	AGA	GTG	TCC	GAA :::	GGG	TT ::
PIR:T04448	- 133									į	E		١.	R	R	V	S	E .	G	F
Query-	10815	CCAAG	CTA(: CTC(::::	CATT	TTG	: GCAT	Caa :::	GGT(CACA	TT	rgc(: SAT	GAT	GGC	CGG	: Taa	TTA	TAI	GA
PIR:T04448 PIR:T04448	143	Q A Exon	T	P 10	F 844	W	H 1076	-	_	H !! fide		•	00	_	_	R .				
Query-	10755	TTCTA	TGC	: ACAI	ACA	AGAA	: ATTCA	CTA	TAT'	: Tata	\ AA 1	Pat	: CGG	ATA	TTG	AGT	: ATT	TTT	GTI	: GA
PIR:T04448	159							~												
Query-	10695	AAATT	TCT	: GTG	TTT	Aaat	: CTGA	CTT	GAC'	: TTG	rtt'	rgt	: CAG			CTA				: TG
PIR:T04448	159													_		Y				V
Query-	10635	TGAAA	TCT	GCT	CGT'	[GGG	: SAGTA	TAG	TAC	TCG	rcc(CGT	TTA	CGG						
PIR:T04448	166				•		Y	•	- • •	- • -		- • -	• • •	• • •		•		•		-
Query-	10575						: GCAGO													
PIR:T04448	186	K	Q	K	S	T ?	A G	W	P	A	A	F	P	V	£	E	P	H	W	Q
Query-	10515		TGC	ATG	GCA	GGA(TTC	CAC	AGG							: GAC	TT	AAA(: TT
PIR:T04448 PIR:T04448	206		- • -	M	A		G L	S	T	G	enc	e:	9(6 10						·.
Query-	10455	Aataa	LATA	: IGAC	GGT	· TAA(: GTTT/	ACTI	'GCC	: TAG	TAC	Taa	CAC	: Gaaj	VATI	ΓλΑ(: Gaa/	IGA	AAC	: CAC
PIR:T04448	216			• • •			. ·		· 						• • • •				·	

FIG. 31 (CONT-3)

Query-	10395 CCTCTTTCTATCAGCAGAAACTGCTATTGTAGTTCTTATTTTTCTCTTGTATTTGCAGG
PIR:T04448	216
Query- PIR:T04448	10335 GTGGATAGAATGGGGCGGTGAAAGGTTTGAGTTTCGGGATGCACCTTCTTATTCAGAGAA 216 W I E W G G E R F E F R D A P S Y S E K
Query- PIR:T04448 PIR:T04448	10275 GAATTGGGGTGGAGGCTTCCCAAGAAAATGGTTTTGGGTAAAACATTTCATCCTTTTGCT 236 N W G G G F P R K W F W Exon 10336 10239 Confidence: 96 100
Query-	10215 ACATTTCTTGCTGCAGACTTTAGTTAGCTAGTGGACCTGTGTATACACCCACATATAGTA
Query- PIR:T04448	10155 TACTTGTTTGATAGCTTTATTTGTCAATGTCTCTTTACAGGTCCAGTGTAATGTCTTTGA V Q C N V F E
Query-	10095 AGGGGCAACTGGAGAAGTTGCTTTAACCGCAGGTGGCGGGTTGAGGCAATTGCCTGGATT 255 G A T G E V A L T A G G G L R Q L P G L
Query- PIR:T04448 PIR:T04448	10035 GACTGAGACCTATGAAAATGCTGCACTGGTATGCACTTATAAGATCTTCTTAAGCAATGA 275 T E T Y E N A A L Exon 10115 10008 Confidence: 100 100
Query- PIR:T04448	9975 CAGTGAGTATTAGAAGGCAGATAGTTTACAAAAGCTCTGGGCCCCTTGTAAATCTGCAGGT
Query- PIR:T04448	9915 TTGTGTACACTATGATGGAAAAATGTACGAGTTTGTTCCTTGGAATGGTGTTAGATG 285 C V H Y D G K M Y E F V P W N G V V R W
GSDB:S:495-	FIG. 31 (CONT-4)

Query-	QRSS CCANADCTCTCCCCCCCCCCCC
Ancry	9855 GGAAATGTCTCCCTGGGG TTATTGGTATATAACTGCAGAGAACGAAAACCATGTGGTAA
PIR: T04448	305 E M S P W G Y W Y I T A E N E N H V
GSDB:S:495- PIR:T04448	526 ggaaat tctccctgggggttattggtatataactgcagagaNcgNaaaccatgtg Exon 9917 9801 Confidence: 100 100
GSDB:S:495-	Exon 9917 9801 Confidence: 100 100 Exon 9961 9801 Confidence: 93 93
Query-	9796 ATTTGTTTTACTAGTTTCATTCAGTTTTACTTTTGACATCATATCATTCCCTTATGGCTA
PIR:T04448	323
GSDB:S:495-	471
Query-	9736 GATTCCAACACCCGATGAATGTCTTGTGACAGGTGGAACTAGAGGCAAGAACAAATGAAG
PIR:T04448	VELEARTNEA
GSDB:S:495-	471 gtggaactagaggcNagaacaaatgaag
Query-	9676 CGGGTACACCTCTGCGTGCTCCTACCACAGAAGTTGGGCTAGCTA
PIR:T04448	333 GTPLRAPTTEVGLATACRDS
GSDB:S:495-	
Query-	9616 GTTGTTACGGTGAATTGAAGTTGCAGATATGGGAACGGCTATATGATGGAAGTAAAGGCA
PIR:T04448	353 CYGELKLQIWERLYDGSKGK
GSDB:S:495-	383 gttgttacggtgaattgaagttgcagatatgggaacggctatatgatggaagtaaaggca
Query-	9556 AGGTATGTATGCTAATGTGATCCAATCCCTGTAGTTAAAAGTCTTAACAAATCCTAAGGC
PIR:T04448	L K V L T N P K A
GSDB:S:495-	323 ag
PIR:T04448 GSDB:S:495-	Exon 9704 9555 Confidence: 100 100 Exon 9704 9555 Confidence: 98 100

FIG. 31 (CONT-5)

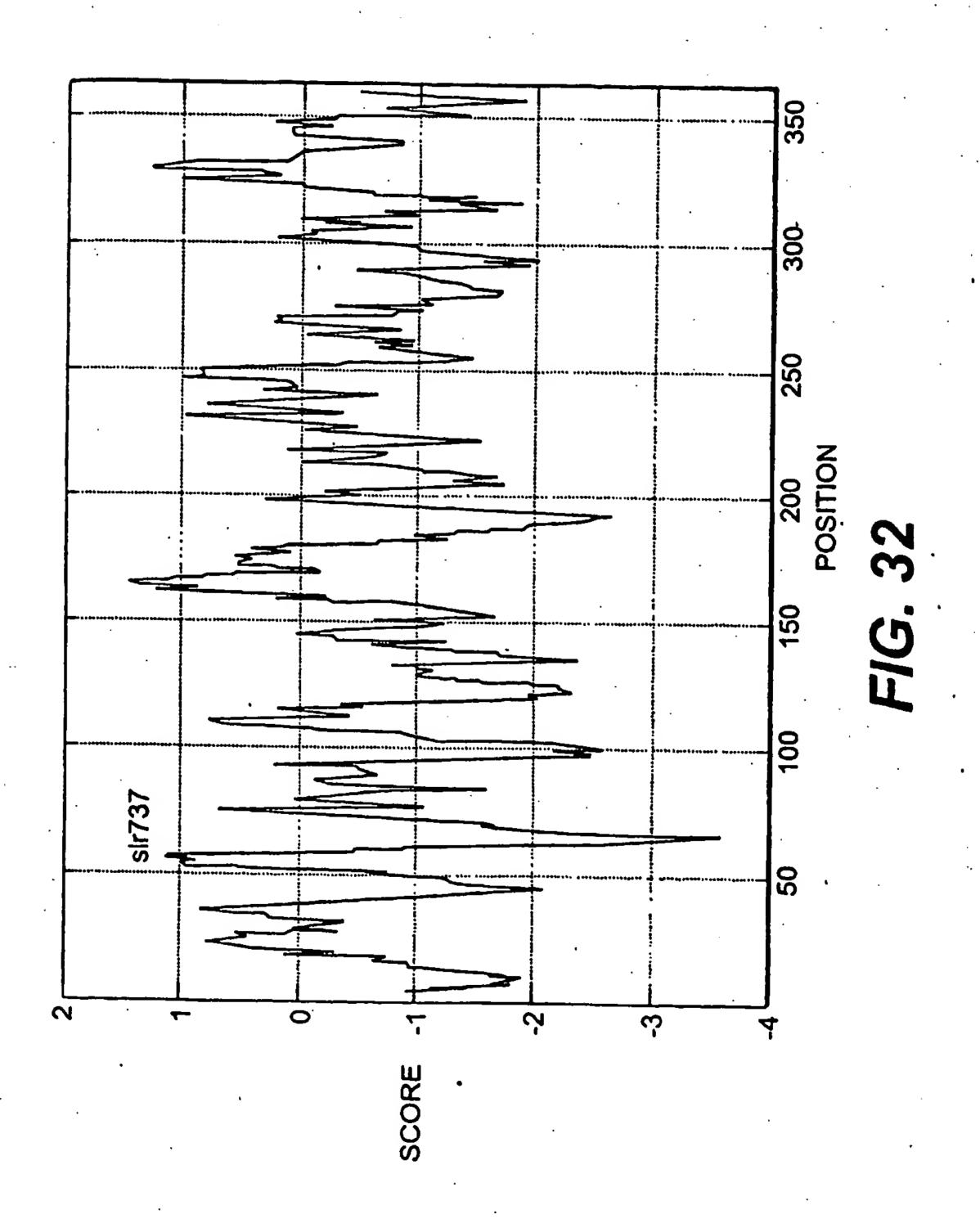
Query-	9496 AGTGAAAGAAGATTATGAACGTTTGTTATGGTTAACAATGATGCAGGTGATATTAGAGAC	ı
PIR:T04448	382 V K E D Y E R L L W L T M M Q V I L E T	
GSDB:S:495-		
	J21 gcgacaccagagac	
Query-	9436 AAAGAGCTCAATGGCAGCAGTGGAGATAGGAGGAGGACCGTGGTTTGGGACATGGAAAGG	
PIR:T04448	402 K S S M A A V E I G G G P W F G T W K G	
GSDB:S:495-	307 aaagagctcaatggcaNcagtggagataggaggaggaccgtggtttgggacatggaaagg	
Query-	9376 AGATACGAGCAACACGCCCGAGCTACTAAAACAGGCTCTTCAGGTCCCATTGGATCTTGA	,
PIR:T04448	422 D T S N T P E L L K Q A L Q V P L D L E	
GSDB:S:495-	247 agatacgagcaacacgcccgagctactaaaacaggctcttcaggtcccattggatcttga	
	every contract of the contract	
Query- (stop)	9316 AAGCGCCTTAGGTTTGGTCCCTTTCTTCAAGCCACCGGGTCTGTAAGATTGATGAGTGT	1
PIR:T04448	442 S A L G L V P F F K P P G L	
GSDB:S:495- PIR:T04448	187 aagcgccttaggtttggtccctttcttcaagccaccgggtctgtaacattgatgagtgtt Exon 9522 9274 Confidence: 100 100	1
		, •
Query-	9256 PROPRIESENTATION OF THE PROPRIESE AND SECULE BANK OF THE PROPRIESE AND GO PROCESS.	j
PIR: T04448	456 	
GSDB:S:495-	127 ttgtttgttgatagagacccatgtgatgaatgaagccttagtcatgtcattgctagcttc	,
Query-	9196 ACTATTATGTATGTATGATTTTAGTTCGTTCGGTCCTTGTGGTAAATGATACGGGCCAGT	
GSDB:5:495-	67 actattatgtatgtatgattttagttcgttcggtccttgtggtaaatgatacgggccagt	, •
Query-	9136 GTAAAGTCTAGTTCAATAAAAGCCTTGAGTCGCATAATTTCAATTTCAAATTGCATC	•
GSDB:S:495- GSDB:S:495-	7 gtaaagt Exon 9450 9130 Confidence: 98 100	
	FIG. 31 (CONT-6)	

ATCEA4C37145 1 3063693/emb|CAA18584.1| 4.0e-43 (AL022537) putative protein [Arabidopsis thaliana]

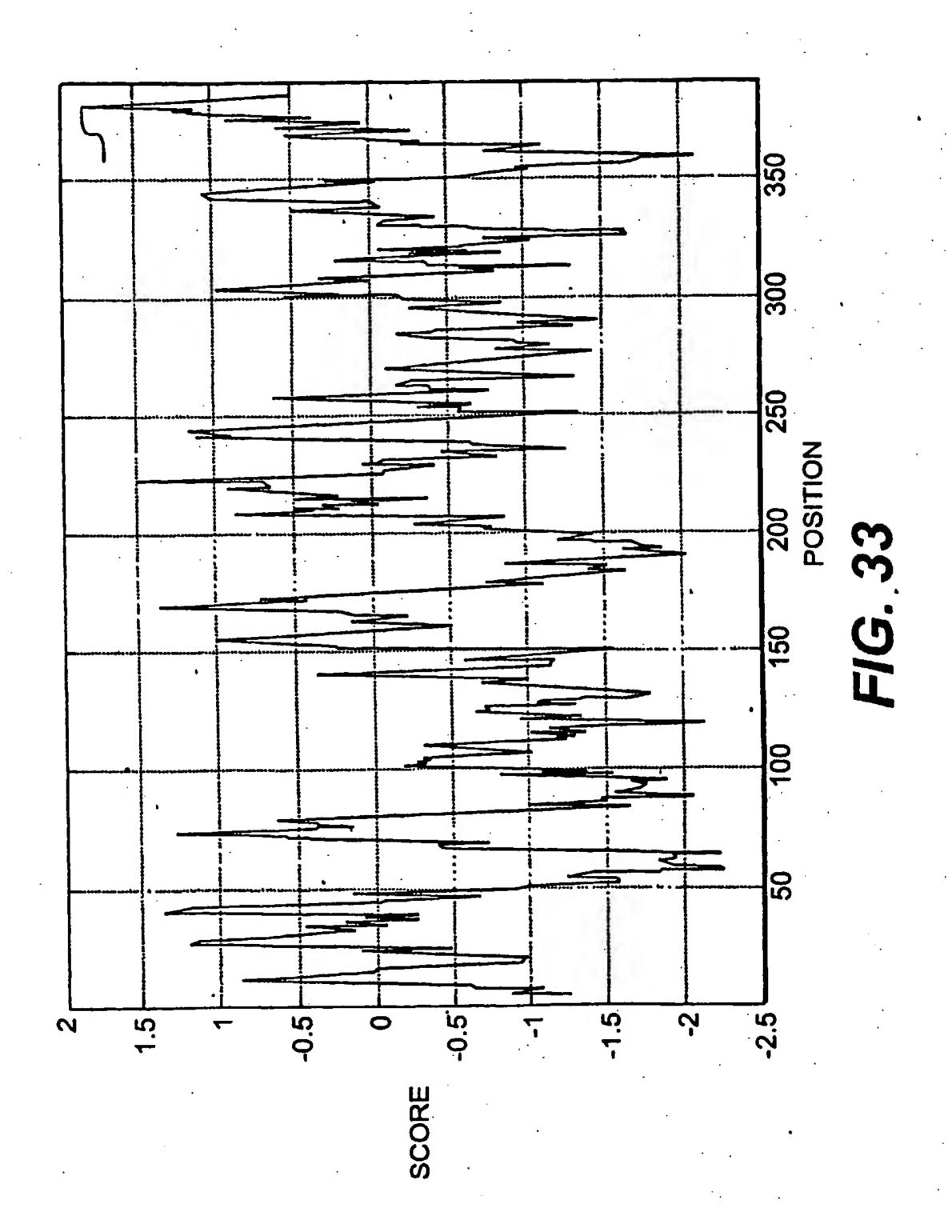
PIR:T04448 sPIR-T04448 shypothetical protein F4D11.30 - Arabidopsis thaliana; g3063693|emb|CAA18584.1 (AL022537) putative protein [Arabidopsis thaliana]_F4D11.30

GSDB:S:4955486|AI995392|AI995392|701673779 A. thaliana, Columbia Col-O, inflorescence-1 Arabidopsis thaliana cDNA clone 701673779, mRNA sequence.

FIG. 31 (CONT-7)



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FIG. 34

slr1737 SYNSP S74814 slr1737 ARATH T04448 CFI ARATH P41088	MEIRSLIVSMNPNLSSFELSRPVSPLTRSLVPFRSTKLVPRSISRVSASI
CtT_unit_t 41000_	
slr1737_SYNSP_S74814_ slr1737_ARATH_T04448_ CFI_ARATH_P41088_	KFPPHSGYHWQGQS*PFFEGWYVRLL STPNSETDKISVKPVYVPTSPNRELRTPHSGYHFDGTPRKFFEGWYFRVS
slr1737_SYNSP_S74814_ slr1737_ARATH_T04448_ CFI_ARATH_P41088	LPQSGESFAFMYSIENPASDHHYGGGAVQILGPATKKQENQEDQLV IPEKRESFCFMYSVENPAFRQSLSPLEVALYGPRFTGVGAQILGANDKYL MSSSNACASPSPFPAVTKLHVDSV-
slr1737_SYNSP_S74814_ slr1737_ARATH_T04448_ CFI_ARATH_P41088_	WRTFPSVKKFWASPRQFALG-HWGKCRDNRQ-AKPLLSEEFFATVKEGYQ CQYEQDSHNFWGDRHELVLGNTFSAVPGAKAPNKEVPPEEFNRRVSEGFQ TFVPSVKSPASSNPLFLG-GAGVRGLDIQ-GKFVIFTVIGVY
slr1737_SYNSP_S74814_ slr1737_ARATH_T04448_ CFI_ARATH_P41088_	IHQNQHQGQIIHGDRHCRWQFTVEPEVTWGSPNRFPRATAGW ATPFWHQGHICDDGRTDYAETVKSARWEYSTRPVYGWGDVGAKQKSTAGW LEGNAVPSLSVKWKGKTTEELTESIPFFREIVTGAF
slr1737_SYNSP_S74814_ slr1737_ARATH_T04448_ CFI_ARATH_P41088_	LSFLPLFDPGWQILLAQGRAHGWLKWQREQYEFDHALVYAEKNWGHSFPS PAAFPVFEPHWQICMAGGLSTGWIEWGGERFEFRDAPSYSEKNWGGGFPR EKFIKVTMKLPLTGQQYSEKVTENC
slr1737 SYNSP S74814 slr1737 ARATH T04448 CFI ARATH P41088	RWFWLQANYFPDHPG-LSVTAAGGERIVLGRPEEVALIGLHHQGNFY KWFWVQCNVFEGATGEVALTAGGGLRQLPGLTETYENAALVCVHYDGKMY VAIWKQLGLYTDCEA-KAVEKFLEIFKEET
slr1737_SYNSP_S74814_ slr1737_ARATH_T04448_ CFI_ARATH_P41088_	EFGPGHGTVTWQVAPWGRWQLKASNDRYWVKLSGKTDKKGSLVHTP-TAQ EFVPWNGVVRWEMSPWGYWYITAENENHVVELEARTNEAGTPLRAPTTEV -FPPG-SSILFALSPTGSLTVAFSKDDS-IPETGIAVIENKLLAEA-VLE
slr1737 SYNSP S74814 slr1737 ARATH T04448 CFI ARATH P41088	GLQLNCRDTTRGYLYLQLGSVGHGLIVQGETDTAGLEVGG GLATACRDSCYGELKLQIWERLYDGSKGSVILETKSSMAAVEIGGGPWFGSIIGKNGVSPGTRLSVAERLSQLMMKNKDEKEVSDHSL
slr1737 SYNSP S74814 slr1737 ARATH T04448 CFI ARATH P41088	DWGLTEENLSKKTVPF TWKGDTSNTPELLKQALQVPLDLESALGLVPFFKPPGLEEKLAKEN

FIG. 35

SEQUENCE LISTING

- <110> Lassner, Michael
 Post-Beittenmiller, Martha
 Savidge, Beth
 Weiss, James
- <120> Nucleic Acid Sequences Involved in Tocopherol Synthesis
- <130> 17133/00/WO
- <150> 60/129,899
- <151> 1999-04-15
- <150> 60/146,461
- <151> 1999-07-30
- <150> PCT/US00/10368
- <151> 2000-04-14
- <160> 94
- <170> FastSEQ for Windows Version 4.0
- <210> 1
- <211> 1182
- <212> DNA
- <213> Arabidopsis sp
- <400> 1
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- aagcagaatc taaagctcca ctctttatca gaaatccgag ttctgcgttg tgattcgagt
- 120 aaagttgtcg caaaaccgaa gtttaggaac aatcttgtta ggcctgatgg tcaaggatct
- 180 tcattgttgt tgtatccaaa acataagtcg agatttcggg ttaatgccac tgcgggtcag
- 240 cctgaggctt tcgactcgaa tagcaaacag aagtctttta gagactcgtt agatgcgttt
- tacaggtttt ctaggcctca tacagttatt ggcacagtgc ttagcatttt atctgtatct
- ttcttagcag tagagaaggt ttctgatata tctcctttac ttttcactgg catcttggag
- 420 gctgttgttg cagctctcat gatgaacatt tacatagttg ggctaaatca gttgtctgat
- 480
- gttgaaatag ataaggttaa caagccctat cttccattgg catcaggaga atattctgtt 540
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- 600 gttggttcat ggccattgtt ctgggctctt tttgtgagtt tcatgctcgg tactgcatac
- 660 totatoaatt tgocactttt acggtggaaa agatttgcat tggttgcagc aatgtgtatc
- 720 ctcgctgtcc gagctattat tgttcaaatc gccttttatc tacatattca gacacatgtg
- 780
 thropagae caatcttott cactaggest statttteg ceastgeott tatgagett
- tttggaagac caatcttgtt cactaggcct cttattttcg ccactgcgtt tatgagcttt 840
- ttctctgtcg ttattgcatt gtttaaggat atacctgata tcgaagggga taagatattc

PCT/US01/42673

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<213> Arabidopsis sp
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Thr Ser Val Asp Arg Val Gly Val Leu Ser Leu Arg Asn Ser Asp Ser
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Val Glu Phe Thr Arg Arg Arg Ser Gly Phe Ser Thr Leu Ile Tyr Glu

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Ser Pro Gly Arg Arg Phe Val Val Arg Ala Ala Glu Thr Asp Thr Asp
Lys Val Lys Ser Gln Thr Pro Asp Lys Ala Pro Ala Gly Gly Ser Ser
Ile Asn Gln Leu Leu Gly Ile Lys Gly Ala Ser Gln Glu Thr Asn Lys
Trp Lys Ile Arg Leu Gln Leu Thr Lys Pro Val Thr Trp Pro Pro Leu
Val Trp Gly Val Val Cys Gly Ala Ala Ala Ser Gly Asn Phe His Trp
Thr Pro Glu Asp Val Ala Lys Ser Ile Leu Cys Met Met Met Ser Gly
    130
Pro Cys Leu Thr Gly Tyr Thr Gln Thr Ile Asn Asp Trp Tyr Asp Arg
145
Asp Ile Asp Ala Ile Asn Glu Pro Tyr Arg Pro Ile Pro Ser Gly Ala
Ile Ser Glu Pro Glu Val Ile Thr Gln Val Trp Val Leu Leu Leu Gly
Gly Leu Gly Ile Ala Gly Ile Leu Asp Val Trp Ala Gly His Thr Thr
        195
Pro Thr Val Phe Tyr Leu Ala Leu Gly Gly Ser Leu Leu Ser Tyr Ile
    210
Tyr Ser Ala Pro Pro Leu Lys Leu Lys Gln Asn Gly Trp Val Gly Asn
225
Phe Ala Leu Gly Ala Ser Tyr Ile Ser Leu Pro Trp Trp Ala Gly Gln
Ala Leu Phe Gly Thr Leu Thr Pro Asp Val Val Leu Thr Leu Leu
Tyr Ser Ile Ala Gly Leu Gly Ile Ala Ile Val Asn Asp Phe Lys Ser
        275
Val Glu Gly Asp Arg Ala Leu Gly Leu Gln Ser Leu Pro Val Ala Phe
    290
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Gly Thr Glu Thr Ala Lys Trp Ile Cys Val Gly Ala Ile Asp Ile Thr
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Gln Leu Ser Val Ala Gly Tyr Leu Leu Ala Ser Gly Lys Pro Tyr Tyr
Ala Leu Ala Leu Val Ala Leu Ile Ile Pro Gln Ile Val Phe Gln Phe
            340
                                                     350
                                345
Lys Tyr Phe Leu Lys Asp Pro Val Lys Tyr Asp Val Lys Tyr Gln Ala
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Ser Ala Gln Pro Phe Leu Val Leu Gly Ile Phe Val Thr Ala Leu Ala
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Ser Gln His
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<213> Arabidopsis sp
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120
gggtcgttga acttcgatct gaggacgtat tggacgactc tgatcaccga gatcaaccag
180
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totgtactog cacaaggogo caagogtgoo cotootgtga tgtgtgtggo ggootgogag

240

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540°
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ttcggagcca tgggtgaatg ctctgccgtg tgcggtggcc tattgggcgg tgccactgag
720
gatgagetee agagteteeg aaggtaeggg agageegteg ggatgetgta teaggtggte
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gatgacatca ccgaggacaa gaagaagagc tatgatggtg gagcagagaa gggaatgatg
840
gaaatggcgg aagagctcaa ggagaaggcg aagaaggagc ttcaagtgtt tgacaacaag
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<213> GLycine sp
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tttgagatca ataatgatgc taaaatgaag agaacaagtc gcaggccact accctcagga
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ctact
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<211> 253
<212> DNA
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acgggtatgg gaa
253
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120
gcattatcct ttttgaaatg gcttttggag ttgccctctt ggcaggagca acatcttctt
180
acctttggat taaaattgtc acgggtctgg gacatgctat tcttgcttca attctcttgt
240
accaagccaa atctatatac ttgagcaaca aagtt
275
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<211> 299
<212> DNA
<213> Glycine sp
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agaagaggcc aattgtcttt ccaagatcac ttatngtggc tattgtaatc atgaacttct
120
tctttgtggg tatggcattg gcaaaggata tacctanctg ttgaaggaga taaaatatat
180
ggcattgata cttttgcaat acgtataggt caaaaacaag tattttggat ttgtattttc
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tgcattctag ctgttcgggc agtaatagtt caacttgcat ttttccttca catgcagact
360
catgtgtaca agaggccacc tgtcttttca agaccattga tttttgctac tgcattcatg
420
agcttcttct ctgtagttat agcactgttt aaggatatac ctgacattga aggagataaa
gtatttggca tccaatcttt ttcagtgtgt ttaggtcaga agccggtgtt ctggacttgt
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<211> 255
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Leu Asn Gln Leu Ser Asp Val Glu Ile Asp Lys Ile Asn Lys Pro Tyr
Leu Pro Leu Ala Ser Gly Glu Tyr Ser Phe Glu Thr Gly Val Thr Ile
Val Ala Ser Phe Ser Ile Leu Ser Phe Trp Leu Gly Trp Val Val Gly
    50
Ser Trp Pro Leu Phe Trp Ala Leu Phe Val Ser Phe Val Leu Gly Thr
Ala Tyr Ser Ile Asn Val Pro Leu Leu Arg Trp Lys Arg Phe Ala Val
Leu Ala Ala Met Cys Ile Leu Ala Val Arg Ala Val Ile Val Gln Leu
Ala Phe Phe Leu His Met Gln Thr His Val Tyr Lys Arg Pro Pro Val
                             120
        115
Phe Ser Arg Pro Leu Ile Phe Ala Thr Ala Phe Met Ser Phe Phe Ser
                        135
    130
Val Val Ile Ala Leu Phe Lys Asp Ile Pro Asp Ile Glu Gly Asp Lys
145
                     150
Val Phe Gly Ile Gln Ser Phe Ser Val Cys Leu Gly Gln Lys Pro Val
Phe Trp Thr Cys Val Thr Leu Leu Glu Ile Ala Tyr Gly Val Ala Leu
                                                     190
            180
Leu Val Gly Ala Ala Ser Pro Cys Leu Trp Ser Lys Ile Phe Thr Gly
        195
                                                 205
Leu Gly His Ala Val Leu Ala Ser Ile Leu Trp Phe His Ala Lys Ser
                         215
    210
                                             220
Val Asp Leu Lys Ser Lys Ala Ser Ile Thr Ser Phe Tyr Met Phe Ile
225
                     230
Trp Lys Leu Phe Tyr Ala Glu Tyr Leu Leu Ile Pro Phe Val Arg
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<212> DNA
<213> Zea sp
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tcaggcttat cttggcctga cattcaactg gggagcttta ctagggtggg ctgctattaa
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tggtgtatga tactatatat gcgcatcagg tgtttcgcta tccctacttt catattaatc
240
cttgatgaag tggccatttc atgttgtcgc ggtggtctta tacttgcata tctccatgca
300
tctcaggaca aagangatga cctgaaagta ggagtccaag tccacagctt aagatttggg
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<210> 26
<211> 299
<212> DNA
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<220>
<221> misc_feature
<222> (1)...(299)
<223> n = A,T,C or G
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aatgaaaagg acaatgcgtg ccccctgcca tctggtcgca ttagtcctgc acatgctgcg
120
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tccacagcat taagatttgg agatttgacc nnatactgna tcagtggctt tggcgcggca
120
tgcttcggca gcttagcact cagtggttac aatgctgacc ttggttggtg tttagtgtga
tgcttgagcg aagaatggta tngtttttac ttgatattga ctccagacct gaaatcatgt
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<210> 28
<211> 257
<212> DNA
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agcgcacaac cattctt
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<210> 29
<211> 368
<212> DNA
<213> Zea sp
<400> 29
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120
aagaaggtct tttggatctg cgttggcttg cttgagatgg cctacagcgt tgcgatactg
atgggageta cetetteetg tttgtggage aaaacageaa eeategetgg eeatteeata
240
cttgccgcga tcctatggag ctgcgcgcga tcggtggact tgacgagcaa agccgcaata
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acgtecttet acatgiteat eiggaagetg tietacgegg agtacetget catecetetg
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368
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<211> 122
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<213> Zea sp
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Ser Phe Ser Val Arg Leu Gly Gln Lys Lys Val Phe Trp Ile Cys Val
Gly Leu Leu Glu Met Ala Tyr Ser Val Ala Ile Leu Met Gly Ala Thr
Ser Ser Cys Leu Trp Ser Lys Thr Ala Thr Ile Ala Gly His Ser Ile
Leu Ala Ala Ile Leu Trp Ser Cys Ala Arg Ser Val Asp Leu Thr Ser
Lys Ala Ala Ile Thr Ser Phe Tyr Met Phe Ile Trp Lys Leu Phe Tyr
Ala Glu Tyr Leu Leu Ile Pro Leu Val Arg
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<210> 31
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<212> DNA
<213> Zea sp
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gatatcattg tettgactae tttgtacage atagetggge tagggattge tattgtaaat
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278
<210> 32
<211> 292
<212> PRT
<213> Synechocystis sp
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Tyr Leu Leu Arg Trp His Lys Pro Ala Gly Arg Leu Ile Leu Met Ile
Pro Ala Leu Trp Ala Val Cys Leu Ala Ala Gln Gly Leu Pro Pro Leu
Pro Leu Leu Gly Thr Ile Ala Leu Gly Thr Leu Ala Thr Ser Gly Leu
Gly Cys Val Val Asn Asp Leu Trp Asp Arg Asp Ile Asp Pro Gln Val
Glu Arg Thr Lys Gln Arg Pro Leu Ala Ala Arg Ala Leu Ser Val Gln
Val Gly Ile Gly Val Ala Leu Val Ala Leu Leu Cys Ala Ala Gly Leu
Ala Phe Tyr Leu Thr Pro Leu Ser Phe Trp Leu Cys Val Ala Ala Val
Pro Val Ile Val Ala Tyr Pro Gly Ala Lys Arg Val Phe Pro Val Pro
Gln Leu Val Leu Ser Ile Ala Trp Gly Phe Ala Val Leu Ile Ser Trp
145
                    150
                                        155
Ser Ala Val Thr Gly Asp Leu Thr Asp Ala Thr Trp Val Leu Trp Gly
                165
Ala Thr Val Phe Trp Thr Leu Gly Phe Asp Thr Val Tyr Ala Met Ala
            180
                                185
Asp Arg Glu Asp Asp Arg Arg Ile Gly Val Asn Ser Ser Ala Leu Phe
Phe Gly Gln Tyr Val Gly Glu Ala Val Gly Ile Phe Phe Ala Leu Thr
                                             220
Ile Gly Cys Leu Phe Tyr Leu Gly Met Ile Leu Met Leu Asn Pro Leu
225
                   . 230
                                         235
Tyr Trp Leu Ser Leu Ala Ile Ala Ile Val Gly Trp Val Ile Gln Tyr
                245
Ile Gln Leu Ser Ala Pro Thr Pro Glu Pro Lys Leu Tyr Gly Gln Ile
            260
                                265
Phe Gly Gln Asn Val Ile Ile Gly Phe Val Leu Leu Ala Gly Met Leu
                            280
Leu Gly Trp Leu
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<210> 33
<211> 316
<212> PRT
<213> Synechocystis sp
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Leu Leu Ile Thr Thr Ala Ala Ser Met Trp Ile Ala Ser Glu Gly Arg
Val Asp Leu Pro Lys Leu Leu Ile Thr Leu Leu Gly Gly Thr Leu Ala
Ala Ala Ser Ala Gln Thr Leu Asn Cys Ile Tyr Asp Gln Asp Ile Asp
Tyr Glu Met Leu Arg Thr Arg Ala Arg Pro Ile Pro Ala Gly Lys Val
Gln Pro Arg His Ala Leu Ile Phe Ala Leu Ala Leu Gly Val Leu Ser
Phe Ala Leu Leu Ala Thr Phe Val Asn Val Leu Ser Gly Cys Leu Ala.
Leu Ser Gly Ile Val Phe Tyr Met Leu Val Tyr Thr His Trp Leu Lys
    130
Arg His Thr Ala Gln Asn Ile Val Ile Gly Gly Ala Ala Gly Ser Ile
145
Pro Pro Leu Val Gly Trp Ala Ala Val Thr Gly Asp Leu Ser Trp Thr
Pro Trp Val Leu Phe Ala Leu Ile Phe Leu Trp Thr Pro Pro His Phe
Trp Ala Leu Ala Leu Met Ile Lys Asp Asp Tyr Ala Gln Val Asn Val
        195
Pro Met Leu Pro Val Ile Ala Gly Glu Glu Lys Thr Val Ser Gln Ile
    210
Trp Tyr Tyr Ser Leu Leu Val Val Pro Phe Ser Leu Leu Leu Val Tyr
Pro Leu His Gln Leu Gly Île Leu Tyr Leu Ala Ile Ala Ile Ile Leu
Gly Gly Gln Phe Leu Val Lys Ala Trp Gln Leu Lys Gln Ala Pro Gly
Asp Arg Asp Leu Ala Arg Gly Leu Phe Lys Phe Ser Ile Phe Tyr Leu
Met Leu Leu Cys Leu Ala Met Val Ile Asp Ser Leu Pro Val Thr His
    290
Gin Leu Val Ala Gin Met Gly Thr Leu Leu Gly
305
                    310
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<210> 34

<211> 324

<212> PRT

<213> Synechocystis sp

<400> 34

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<210> 35 <211> 307 <212> PRT <213> Synechocystis sp

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Ala Ile Ile Leu Phe Cys Ser His Phe His Gln Val Glu Asp Asp Leu
        195
                             200
Ala Ala Gly Lys Lys Ser Pro Ile Val Arg Leu Gly Thr Lys Leu Gly
Ser Gln Val Leu Thr Leu Ser Val Val Ser Leu Tyr Leu Ile Thr Ala
225
                    230
Ile Gly Val Leu Cys His Gln Ala Pro Trp Gln Thr Leu Leu Ile Ile
                                     250
                245
Ala Ser Leu Pro Trp Ala Val Gln Leu Ile Arg His Val Gly Gln Tyr
                                 265
                                                     270
            260
His Asp Gln Pro Glu Gln Val Ser Asn Cys Lys Phe Ile Ala Val Asn
         275
                             280
Leu His Phe Phe Ser Gly Met Leu Met Ala Ala Gly Tyr Gly Trp Ala
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                         295
Gly Leu Gly.
305
<210> 36
<211> 927
 <212> DNA
 <213> Synechocystis sp
<400> 36
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 720
 geggetatge etttaaatae tgetttettg attgttteec atttgtgett attageetta
 780
 ctctggtggc ggagtcgaga tgtacactta gaaagcaaaa ccgaaattgc tagtttttat
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 <210> 37
 <211> 308
 <212> PRT
 <213> Synechocystis sp
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<400> 37
Met Ala Thr Ile Gln Ala Phe Trp Arg Phe Ser Arg Pro His Thr Ile
Ile Gly Thr Thr Leu Ser Val Trp Ala Val Tyr Leu Leu Thr Ile Leu
Gly Asp Gly Asn Ser Val Asn Ser Pro Ala Ser Leu Asp Leu Val Phe
Gly Ala Trp Leu Ala Cys Leu Leu Gly Asn Val Tyr Ile Val Gly Leu
Asn Gln Leu Trp Asp Val Asp Ile Asp Arg Ile Asn Lys Pro Asn Leu
Pro Leu Ala Asn Gly Asp Phe Ser Ile Ala Gln Gly Arg Trp Ile Val
Gly Leu Cys Gly Val Ala Ser Leu Ala Ile Ala Trp Gly Leu Gly Leu
Trp Leu Gly Leu Thr Val Gly Ile Ser Leu Ile Ile Gly Thr Ala Tyr
Ser Val Pro Pro Val Arg Leu Lys Arg Phe Ser Leu Leu Ala Ala Leu
    130
Cys Ile Leu Thr Val Arg Gly Ile Val Val Asn Leu Gly Leu Phe Leu
                                                             160
Phe Phe Arg Ile Gly Leu Gly Tyr Pro Pro Thr Leu Ile Thr Pro Ile
Trp Val Leu Thr Leu Phe Ile Leu Val Phe Thr Val Ala Ile Ala Ile
Phe Lys Asp Val Pro Asp Met Glu Gly Asp Arg Gln Phe Lys Ile Gln
Thr Leu Thr Leu Gln Ile Gly Lys Gln Asn Val Phe Arg Gly Thr Leu
    210
Ile Leu Leu Thr Gly Cys Tyr Leu Ala Met Ala Ile Trp Gly Leu Trp
225
Ala Ala Met Pro Leu Asn Thr Ala Phe Leu Ile Val Ser His Leu Cys
                                    250
Leu Leu Ala Leu Leu Trp Trp Arg Ser Arg Asp Val His Leu Glu Ser
                                265
Lys Thr Glu Ile Ala Ser Phe Tyr Gln Phe Ile Trp Lys Leu Phe Phe
        275
Leu Glu Tyr Leu Leu Tyr Pro Leu Ala Leu Trp Leu Pro Asn Phe Ser
    290
                        295
Asn Thr Ile Phe
305
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<210> 38 <211> 1092

<212> DNA

<213> Synechocystis sp

<400> 38

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tggtacgtgc gcctgctttt gccccaatcc ggggaaagtt ttgcttttat gtactccatc 120
gaaaatcctg ctagcgatca tcattacggc ggcggtgctg tgcaaatttt agggccggct 180
acgaaaaaac aagaaaatca ggaagaccaa cttgtttggc ggacatttcc ctcggtaaaa 240
aaattttggg ccagtcctcg ccagtttgcc ctagggcatt ggggaaaatg tagggataac 300
aggcaggcga aacccctact ctccgaagaa tttttgcca cggtcaagga aggttatcaa 360
atccatcaaa atcagcacca aggacaaatc attcatggcg atcgccattg tcgttggcag

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ttcaccgtag aaccggaagt aacttggggg agtcctaacc gatttcctcg ggctacagcg
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tattttcctg accatccagg actgagcgtc actgccgctg gcggggaacg gattgttctt
ggtcgccccg aagaggtagc tttaattggc ttacatcacc aaggtaattt ttacgaattt
ggcccgggcc atggcacagt cacttggcaa gtagctccct ggggccgttg gcaattaaaa
 gccagcaatg ataggtattg ggtcaagttg tccggaaaaa cagataaaaa aggcagttta
 gtccacactc ccaccgccca gggcttacaa ctcaactgcc gagataccac taggggctat
 ttgtatttgc aattgggatc tgtgggtcac ggcctgatag tgcaagggga aacggacacc
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 1080
 gtgccattct ga
  1092
  <210> 39
  <211> 363
  <212> PRT
  <213> Synechocystis sp
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  Phe Phe Glu Gly Trp Tyr Val Arg Leu Leu Leu Pro Gln Ser Gly Glu
  Ser Phe Ala Phe Met Tyr Ser Ile Glu Asn Pro Ala Ser Asp His His
  Tyr Gly Gly Gly Ala Val Gln Ile Leu Gly Pro Ala Thr Lys Lys Gln
   Glu Asn Gln Glu Asp Gln Leu Val Trp Arg Thr Phe Pro Ser Val Lys
   Lys Phe Trp Ala Ser Pro Arg Gln Phe Ala Leu Gly His Trp Gly Lys
   Cys Arg Asp Asn Arg Gln Ala Lys Pro Leu Leu Ser Glu Glu Phe Phe
   Ala Thr Val Lys Glu Gly Tyr Gln Ile His Gln Asn Gln His Gln Gly
   Gln Ile Ile His Gly Asp Arg His Cys Arg Trp Gln Phe Thr Val Glu
   Pro Glu Val Thr Trp Gly Ser Pro Asn Arg Phe Pro Arg Ala Thr Ala
   Gly Trp Leu Ser Phe Leu Pro Leu Phe Asp Pro Gly Trp Gln Ile Leu
    Leu Ala Gln Gly Arg Ala His Gly Trp Leu Lys Trp Gln Arg Glu Gln
    Tyr Glu Phe Asp His Ala Leu Val Tyr Ala Glu Lys Asn Trp Gly His
    Ser Phe Pro Ser Arg Trp Phe Trp Leu Gln Ala Asn Tyr Phe Pro Asp
    His Pro Gly Leu Ser Val Thr Ala Ala Gly Gly Glu Arg Ile Val Leu
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225
                    230
                                                             240
Gly Arg Pro Glu Glu Val Ala Leu Ile Gly Leu His His Gln Gly Asn
Phe Tyr Glu Phe Gly Pro Gly His Gly Thr Val Thr Trp Gln Val Ala
                                265
Pro Trp Gly Arg Trp Gln Leu Lys Ala Ser Asn Asp Arg Tyr Trp Val
        275
Lys Leu Ser Gly Lys Thr Asp Lys Lys Gly Ser Leu Val His Thr Pro
    290
                        295
Thr Ala Gln Gly Leu Gln Leu Asn Cys Arg Asp Thr Thr Arg Gly Tyr
305 🛒
                                                             320
                    310
                                        315
Leu Tyr Leu Gln Leu Gly Ser Val Gly His Gly Leu Ile Val Gln Gly
Glu Thr Asp Thr Ala Gly Leu Glu Val Gly Gly Asp Trp Gly Leu Thr
Glu Glu Asn Leu Ser Lys Lys Thr Val Pro Phe
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56
<210> 41
<211> 32
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tegaggatee geggeegeaa getteetgea gg
<210> 42
<211> 32
<212> DNA
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<223> Description of Artificial Sequence: Oligonucleotide
<400> 42
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32
<210> 43
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<220>
<223> Description of Artificial Sequence: Oligonucleotide
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32
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<210> 45
<211> 36
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<400> 45
tcgaggatcc gcggccgcaa gcttcctgca ggagct
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<210> 46
<211> 28
<212> DNA
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<210> 47
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<212> DNA
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tcgacctgca ggaagcttgc ggccgcggat ccagct
36
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<211> 31
<212> DNA
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<210> 51
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41
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38
<210> 53
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<223> Description of Artificial Sequence: Oligonucleotide
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<223> Description of Artificial Sequence: Oligonucleotide
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<211> 37
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 <212> DNA
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38
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<210> 63
<211> 22
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22
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ccc
63
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<400> 65
ggatccatgg ttgcccaaac cccatc
26
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gaattotcaa agccagooca gtaac
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CCC
63
<210> 69
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<223> Description of Artificial Sequence: Oligonucleotide
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<400> 70
ctgagttgga tgtattggat c
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<210> 71
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<223> Description of Artificial Sequence: Oligonucleotide
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ggatccatgg ttacttcgac aaaaatcc
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<223> Description of Artificial Sequence: Oligonucleotide
<400> 72
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gaattettaa cecaacagta aagtteee
28
<210> 74
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63
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<223> Description of Artificial Sequence: Oligonucleotide
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20
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22
<210> 77
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62
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27
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<210> 82
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<223> Description of Artificial Sequence: Oligonucleotide
<400> 82
gcaatacccg cttggaaaac g
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<400> 83
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<223> Description of Artificial Sequence: Oligonucleotide
<400> 84
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<223> Description of Artificial Sequence: Oligonucleotide
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<210> 86
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<223> Description of Artificial Sequence: Oligonucleotide
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 21
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25
<210> 90
<211> 25
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<400> 90
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tttttgagca ttaaaccata aaaccatagt tataagtaac tgttttaatc gaatatgact
120
cgattaagat taggaaaaat ttataaccgg taattaagaa aacattaacc gtagtaaccg
taaatgccga ttcctccctt gtctaaaaga cagaaaacat atattttatt ttgccccata
240
tgtttcactc tatttaattt caggcacaat acttttggtt ggtaacaaaa ctaaaaagga
300
caacacgtga tacttttcct cgtccgtcag tcagattttt tttaaactag aaacaagtgg
360
caaatctaca ccacattttt tgcttaatct attaacttgt aagttttaaa ttcctaaaaa
agtictaacta atticttictaa tataagtaca tticcitaaat tticciaaaaa gticaaattaa
taattttcaa aatctaatct aaatatctaa taattcaaaa tcattaaaaa gacacgcaac
540
aatgacacca attaatcatc ctcgacccac acaattctac agttctcatg ctaaaccata
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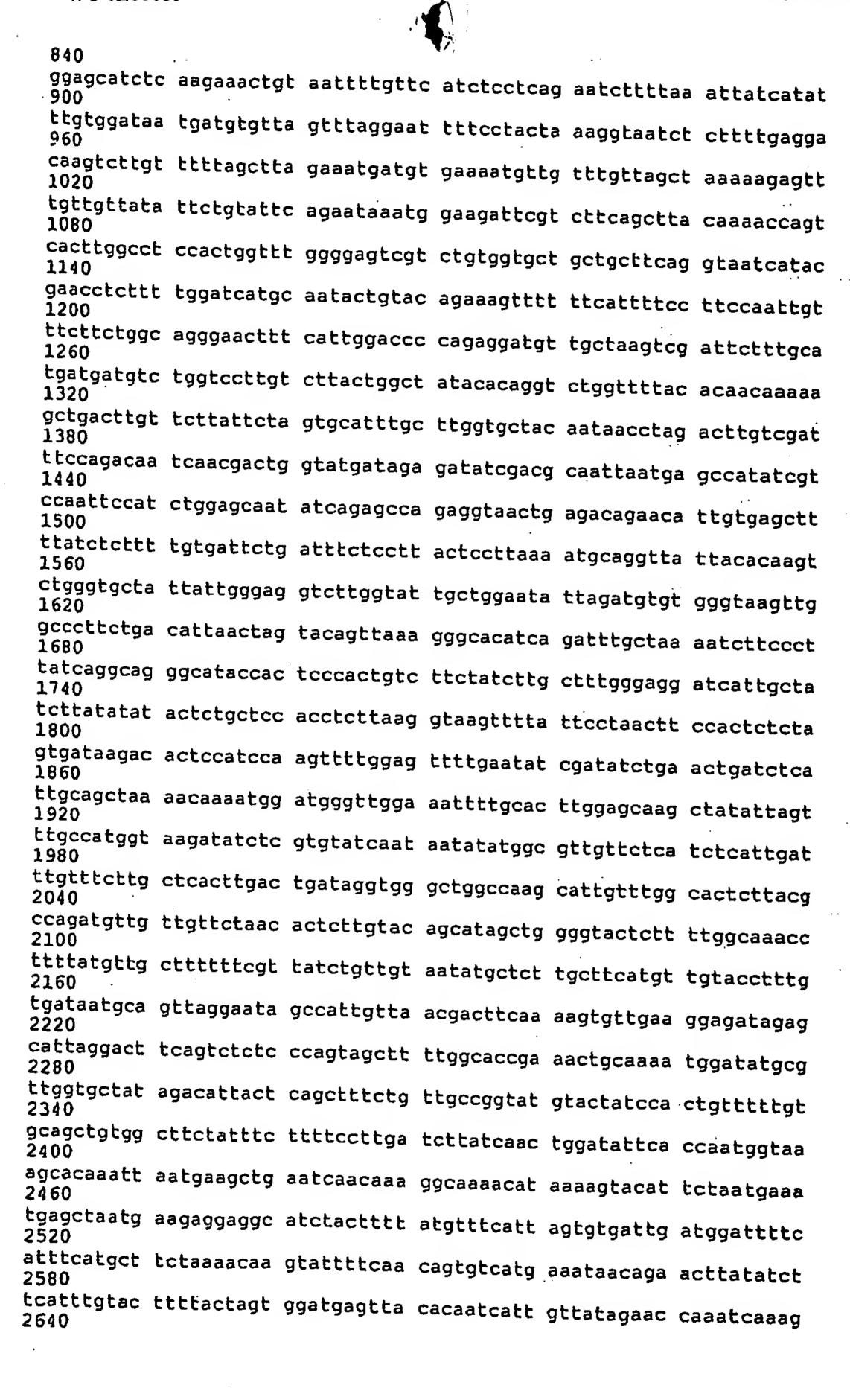
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